

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6/14/82

On April 28, 1982, [redacted] was interviewed at Winston-Salem, North Carolina. A transcript of the interview is as follows:

Investigation on 4/28/82 at Winston-Salem, N.C. File # CE 44-3527  
by SA [redacted] / mst Date dictated 4/28/82

SUB H  
379

Okay, this is [redacted] I'm a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation assigned to Greensboro, N. Carolina. This is Winston-Salem, N. Carolina, on April 28, 1982, the time now is approximately 11:10 A.M. in the morning. This is the interview of [redacted] Please identify yourself for the recording.

[redacted] My name is [redacted] for the Grand Jury Justice Fund, and I'd like to note I'm objecting to the way (unintelligible).

My name is [redacted] Attorney for (unintelligible).

[redacted] Attorney, for the Western Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

Okay, [redacted] would you please state your full name?

[redacted] And where do you live, [redacted]

And for how long have you lived there?

Approximately [redacted] years.

Okay, so in November 1979, were you residing at that address?

Yes.

Okay. Fine. In that same period of time were you employed?

Yes, I was.

And what were you doing?

I was a [redacted]

A what now?

[redacted] Hospital.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
A li..a li technician type thing?

Right.

[REDACTED] thing? (Laugh)

Right. A [REDACTED]

(Laugh) Okay. Ah, for how long a period did you work with the [REDACTED]

I've been there five years...almost five years.

Okay. And in your employment were you involved in any kind of union activity?

Uhhh yeah, I was involved in helping organizing the union in 1959.

Uh, was there a specific type union for [REDACTED] or was it..

No, it was

...for all technicians?

Hospital workers.

Okay. And uh, did you have any kind of official position in that union activity or were you just one of the organizers?

No official position.

Okay. So, tell us more about your activities in attempting to uh, get a union for the employees of [REDACTED]

Well, ah..I wasn't really that much involved in the actual organizing. I would help leaflet that it was through, uh, uh, hearing about the union that you know union organizing that I met (unintelligible) Calsay and uh, uh, basically all I did was, was leaflet and talk to people and uh, was involved in doing (unintelligible).

[REDACTED]  
In 1979, were you married?

The end of 79...

The end of..

September 79.

Okay, and your husband's name?

[REDACTED]

Okay, was your husband employed in that period of time?

Yes.

Was he also employed at [REDACTED]

No.

And where was he employed?

[REDACTED] (unintelligible)

Okay, was your husband at that time prior to your marriage involved in union activity also?

Specific union activity, you mean....trying to organize the union organize (unintelligible) but I know that he has been, he has been involved in it for a long time to try to organize it (unintelligible)

Well, were your..were you and your future husband at that time associated together in your union activity at [REDACTED] Did you know each other there?

I didn't know him through the union activity there. No, but as for leafletting, he'd help us leaflet. We'd leaflet and that was about...that was his involvement. You talking specifically about [REDACTED]

Uh huh, yes. Okay. Okay, in your union activities and during this period you said you came to meet Mr. Cesar Corsay? Who else did you meet...ah in that activity?



Well..ah

Relative to the proceedings, yeah.

Well they were other people that were organizing at [redacted] There was a big organizing committee. My memory of it of exactly who it was...Duke.

[redacted]?

His direct involvement in organizing union, I don't know of.. Now I've heard of a group called Friends of 77 that I believe [redacted] was.. [redacted] had organized. and or helped organize it working with but I was not that involved at the time.

How about Dr. Nathan?

Uh, I knew that he was helping also.

Would you please explain 77?

Uh, Friends 77 is was an organization uh, to deport organized (unintelligible) Local 77 that was already union active and it was made up of other organizations and unions outside of [redacted] (unintelligible).

Okay. Did there come a time in 1979 or prior to that that you became active in any kind of political or social active groups in Durham?

Well I uh, actual specific groups?

Did you ever (unintelligible) from the workers view-point Organization?

I became familiar with people working with ah, with them.

Okay, was that in 1979?

Why, I couldn't tell you the month exactly.

Okay, but particularly with Cesar Corsay?

Uh huh.

Okay, did you ever become an active member yourself in that organization? Did you attend meetings for example?

Uh, some forums I, I go to that were (unintelligible)

Okay, fine. Did it come a time then in 1979 where through your associations in the union activity and/or through your associations in attending forums with the Workers Viewpoint Organization that you became aware of a rise in Klan activity in the State of N. Carolina?

Yes, through various ways, through the media and talking to people.

Okay, fine. Please explain in your words how you became aware of it and what knowledge you had about the growth of Klan activity in that period.

Uh, well particularly at Duke, uh, one of the things that uh Duke, that really made me conscious of the Klan and...and the racist type things that they use and Cesar really talked to me a lot about it with uh, with uh, Duke really made an effort and conscious effort it seemed to supervisors right down from management to to really divide people up along racist lines and uh, uh, you know it was Cesar that really talked to me about that how that, that's what management and the Klan does to uh, to divide people up and keep unions out, and that's when - I became more conscious of, of, you know that kind of racism in the Klan and uh, and just particularly I remember and I don't remember the date, I remember reading and talking to some people about this United Fund, uh, of Klans and Nazi of the United Racist Front of being organized, you know all races come together to fight union activists and whatever. So that, you know that you know one particular thing I remember its hard for me to, for me to put exactly you know what incident happened to make me aware of Klan activity.

Okay. Were you

It, it was in the papers all the time.

Okay. Other than the news media and talks you had with Mr. Corsay, did you have any kind of personal experience in which the Klan would have been involved?

No.

Okay. Uh, did you become aware of an incident which occurred at the Forsyth Library in February 1979,

involving Klan having a conference or a rally there showing their sheets and stuff like that?

No.

(Unintelligible) (Laugh) Okay, did there come a time then around July 1979, when you became aware of a rally that the Klan was going to have in China Grove regarding a recruiting drive?

Right.

Okay. Tell us how you became aware of that?

Um, through the media for one and I talked, Cesar talked to me about it and uh, all I knew was that they were going to be showing a racist film to try to recruit Klan in that area and uh, what I knew was that the people of the community were very outraged about it and were organizing a demonstration against the Klan showing the film and I agreed that that was a good thing that people in N. Carolina do need to take a stand against the Klan and uh, helped to organize people in Durham to go down to participate.

Okay, tell us what you did.

Leafletted communities, uh, put up leaflets on bulletin boards at my work place. Now, talk to people about it.

Okay, did there come a time then when you, you saw (unintelligible) China Grove?

Yes.

Okay, when was that?

July 8, I think was the date the demonstration..

Is that the first day you were there was July 8, 1979?

Yes.

Okay, tell us what occurred that day.

Uh, a long time ago its hard for me exactly the specifics. Uh, I went down there uh, and we came we went to the black communities center and at that, at that, thats where people organized to march over to the uh, the community center where the film was being showed. Uh, we marched, uh, down

the street. One thing particularly I do very well remember is the Klan caravan passing by us giving us dirty looks and uh, dirty hand gestures, uh whether they actually uh, heckled us, that I don't remember. Uh, they passed us, they passed us uh, by and shortly after that we got to the community center they were showing the film. When we got there and, and, all, everybody marched up to the front uh, the Klan came out, uh, cops were out there, whether, I don't remember whether the cops were already out there or not. Uh, people started agitating the Klan. The Klan uh, how many of them I don't remember. Seemed like five or six Klansmen there might have been more. All had shotguns, uh, people were agitating them uh, then uh, somebody burned, took their Confederate flag and burned it and uh, thats when one of the Klansmen, uh, I don't know who uh, kind of darted out with his gun like he was going to attack people. People uh, moved back and somebody, somebody either a policeman or, or a Klan, you know the Klansmen grabbed him and pulled him away. Uh, then we left. We, we, agitated a little bit more stomped on the flag and marched around the community center and back to the black community.

Okay, tell me what you mean by agitating a little bit more.

Chanted. I'm not sure exactly what, exactly the chants were.

Okay.

Uh, death to the Klan, uh, other than that I don't remember, you know any particular chant.

During these chants did you get any type of exchange coming from those who were identified as Klan on the porch. Did..would..would they say anything back to you?

I don't remember.

Okay, do you now know any individual who was on that date among the Klan that you can identify by name?

No.

b6  
b7c

Have you ever seen photographs of what occurred at China Grove?

I have seen photographs of the Klan standing up there and of the demonstration, but ..

Are any of those individuals now familiar to you from later news coverage identifying them?

No.

Okay. In the group that you were with uh, what were the people carrying?

A few sticks.

Okay. And you saw (unintelligible) carrying placards and stuff like that?

Any kind of what?

Placards.

I don't remember that either. Probably uh, I don't remember. You mean posters, I don't, no I don't remember.

Okay. Other than the sticks did you see any kind of firearms being carried by any of the demonstrators?

No.

Did you see any firearms at any time while you were present at the community center other than what the Klan had?

No. (Unintelligible)

Okay, and what happened after that after the agitation and burning of the flag.

We went back to the, we marched around the community center and back to the black community.

Okay. And what happened after you got back?

It was like a rally people getting (unintelligible) we sang.

Okay. At any time did you see weapons in the community?

Not that I remember. I've seen, I've seen pictures of China Grove, uh, where there were weapons, some kind of weapons, but my memory of it is real vague. I don't remember any weapons.

And how long did you stay in China Grove after the rally?

We left after the rally.

What time was that?

I don't know.

Okay. Was there any problem before you left, any kind of confrontation with Klan or anything like that? Any kind of disturbance?

No, just the caravan..

That was..

That was (unintelligible).

That was..

And they were obviously being, uh, you know, being real antagonistic towards us...I do remember that..uh.

This is by their gestures?

Yeah, their gestures. They rolled down the windows I don't know whether they were heckling us, I don't remember its a long time ago.

Okay, after China Grove, did there come a time when when plans were made to have a rally and conference in Greensboro?

I'm not sure of the exact date the plans were made to have a rally.

Okay. Just tell us to the best of your knowledge what took place that led up to the rally here in Greensboro November 3rd.

Well, I just, what I remember is uh, uh, to Cesar talking to me about a rally in (unintelligible) Now, I know I, I helped leaflet for that and uh, helping to organize (unintelligible).

Okay, where did you do your leafletting for that rally?

Duke.

Duke.

We (unintelligible) Duke. That's all, I, I might have done some more but I don't remember. Yeah, we went into the community, that's right, we sure did.

Into which community?

Uh, uh, over by in east (unintelligible) near downtown.

Is that a predominately black area?

Integrated area.

No one race is predominate in it?

Certain sections might be uh, more, uh, black population, but uh, I do remember that, that it was an intergrated neighborhood (unintelligible).

You classify it more as a working neighborhood?

Yeah. Definitely.

Okay. Okay. Tell us did you ever attend any meetings or conferences at, at Durham relative to the November 3rd rally?

Yeah, I was at a conference.

Okay, what took place at, what took place in that conference?

Mainly it was talk, mainly the purpose of it was to talk about significant uh, people taking a stand against the Klan. Uh, you know, people drew out the united racist front and that it was important uh, uh, for us to go and make a statement in N. Carolina that there is resistance and that the people in N. Carolina do not want the Klan and uh, thats basically (unintelligible) and thats basically what the meeting was about.

Okay. During this meeting, was there any conversation regarding the fact that the Klan might come to this demonstration in Greensboro?

Yeah, uh, somebody, I remember somebody from the audience asked, well what if the Klan comes and basically uh, the attitude was that they were not going to come, that this was the day for, you know, for the, for the people of N. Carolina and the, the children to come and, and say no to the Klan, you know.

Okay, who gave that response if you recall?

I don't know, it could have been [redacted] I'm not sure.

Okay, (unintelligible) was there then that was uh, generally back in having this conversation with the uh, other group. [redacted] (unintelligible)

(Unintelligible) Well people were ... it was an open discussion, it was just a open discussion, I think [redacted] was, [redacted] was probably speaking (unintelligible) [redacted]

How about Mr. Corsay?

Yeah. Cesar was there too.

How about Dr. Nathan, was he there?

I don't remember.

How about Sandra Smith?

I don't think so.

Okay. Did you know Sandra Smith at that time?

I knew of her, from her union, from her work in the union but I didn't know her.

Okay. How about [redacted]

I knew of him, I, I don't believe I knew him at that time.

Okay. So do you now speak to Sandra Smith or [redacted]  
[redacted] was there at this conference?



To my knowledge it, it could have been there, I really don't remember.

Okay. They did not play a more active role by discussing peoples anxieties or fears about the Klan coming and people saying that they were not going to come, you know, that type of thing. They were not involved in an exchange to your knowledge?

No, not you mean [redacted] and Sandy?

Yeah.

Not to my knowledge.

Okay. Tell us about what plans were made on the night of November 2 for coming to Greensboro. Did you attend any meeting on November 2 about getting ready to come over to Greensboro for the conference?

That, uh, that might have been the meeting that I'm talking about.

Okay.

Thats the night before.

Night before. Okay, fine. Tell us then what happened on the morning of November 3. Narrative form, exactly what you did that day.

Okay. I got up, I went to the bookstore, the Break the Chain bookstore and uh, uh, people were getting ready to go down in a caravan down to Greensboro. Uh, I, I know that I had, I'm pretty sure I brought the, my truck, my husband's truck over there and people were putting signs in there and everybody..we all went down, bunch of people went down uh, I drove to Windsor community.

Okay, now, did you drive [redacted] truck at that time?

No.

Okay. Who drove [redacted] truck?

I'm not, I'm not 100 per cent sure, but I think it was Calsay.

Okay. Did you travel with him in that truck?

No.

Okay. But you did see the truck there that morning?

Absolutely.

Okay. And you saw people loading the truck? Okay. Do you recall whether or not there was a shotgun in the vehicle at that time?

There, uh, that I'm not sure of either. Uh, now [redacted] shotgun often in the gun rack in the front of the car, in the front of the truck. Whether it was there particularly that day I really don't remember, uh, it seems to me that I would be conscious of it, uh, I was not familiar with guns at all and I was afraid of guns and it, I had driven the truck and if there was a loaded gun in the truck I would probably have been more conscious of it and I just really don't remember.

Okay, but you didn't drive the truck though?

I drove the truck to the bookstore, I'm pretty sure of that.

Okay. Would it be a matter of custom that [redacted] [redacted] would normally keep the gun you said in the rack there?

He kept it there sometimes.

Sometimes?

Uh huh.

But you have no recollection of seeing it there the morning of November 3rd?

No.

Okay. Uh, I assume you gave the keys to Mr. Corsay, then, if he drove it..

Yeah, I asked him to drive it.

Okay.

Because it was such a big tru..it was a big truck and I was not very good at driving it, so I asked somebody you know, I remember specifically asking if somebody else would drive it.

Okay, fine, and you then came up with another group?

Uh, yeah, I went down in a car.

Okay. Who, who'd you come with?

I don't remember that.

You came with

No.

Okay. Okay, and what time did you arrive in Greensboro; to the best of your knowledge?

15 minutes before the demonstration was supposed to start, I don't remember the exact time.

Okay, did you stop any place before you came to the Windsor community?

No.

The group you were with went directly to the Windsor community?

Right.

Approximately how many were in that group?

From Durham?

That you came with friends.

Fifteen, I don't remember exactly.

Okay. Approximately how many vehicles would be involved then?

Four, I think. I think there were four.

And that group was all from Durham and came directly through Windsor community.

Right.

Okay, and what did you do when you got to the Windsor community?

Uh, got out of the cars and uh, people were already at the Windsor community un, giving speeches and uh, uh, chanting and uh, well you want me to uh, tell you the whole story?

Please, yes.

Okay. Cesar said that he would uh, uh, he was, he was going to go over to Morningside to bring the posters that were in the truck..in the truck so he said was going to drive over there and bring the posters. So we uh, I stayed there, we chanted and we were all getting ready to march, I remember there was uh, an unmarked cop car in the parking lot that was taking pictures of us. There was uh, another cop car on the other side maybe one or two. Uh, they were taking pictures of us and uh, uh, we, you know, we, uh, we didn't especially appreciate that, I remember that. Uh. People were giving speeches and Cesar left and the next thing I remember is sirens, sirens, sirens. Just sirens going crazy. And I remember saying uh, a friend of mine said what in the world is that? And I remember very, very specifically saying oh, its the cops harassing people, like they had been, you know, they had been taking pictures of us and I, you know, the last thing on my mind was that something like what happened could have happened that the Klan would have shown up. And thats what happened.

Okay.

The entire frame I really don't know..

When did you become aware of the fact that the shootings had occurred?

It was shortly after that someone came over to tell us to go, to get out, uh, for all of..we didn't know whether the Klan was headed over our way or what, uh, and, and, whoever that was said someone had been murdered. But who we didn't know.

Okay. On November 3rd, did you own a weapon? You personally?

No.

Okay. Did you bring any kind of weapon with you, from Durham to Greensboro?

No.

Okay. At the Windsor community, did you see anybody in possession of weapons?

I don't remember.

Well [redacted] any questions about the (unintelligible)?

Going back to China Grove, when you were in uh, you know where they were going to show the films, where were you positioned (unintelligible) were you up close or...

Right up front. To the left.

Okay, and when you say the marchers agitated the Klan you mean...

Chanted, right. Many people were mad about seeing the Klan there, so, uh, you know, agitational chants.

Okay, now you said you leafletted at Duke and the community in Durham prior to November 3rd. Did you do any other (unintelligible) any other kind of organization or activity in Durham before the march in Greensboro?

Talking to people.

Did any of you talk to in the community raise the possibility that there might be violence and that the Klan might come?

I don't remember that.

Um, did you ever go to Greensboro (unintelligible)

No.

Now you discussed the meeting that you attended in Durham. Was that on November 2?

I don't remember. I think so.

Did you attend more than one meeting?

My recollection of it is very vague. I remember, I remember, uh, leafletting way before, uh, the actual demonstration. As for a meeting, uh, you know, around it, I think it was November 2, but I, I can't really tell you for sure.

You know people were making posters (unintelligible).

Yeah, I think so.

Was there any discussion during that meeting about bringing firearms, or stipulation pretty (unintelligible). Can you tell us what the nature of that discussion was?

Just that uh, we, you know, we didn't, you know there was (unintelligible) that we couldn't bring arms.

Uh, were you aware of any pre-arrangement that, that your husband [redacted] might have made with Cesar Corsay to provide his truck to use to transport the sound system?

Not that I remember, cause what, the thing that's fishy about it is that uh, I remember very specifically saying I don't want to drive the truck, cause I, I just assumed I was going to drive the truck down cause it was mine, my husband's truck. And specifically, you know, it wasn't like anything conscious, just ah, spontaneous..like I don't want to drive the thing, Cesar will you drive it? So as for pre-arrangement uh, I really don't think it could have been, but

But there might have been that you just weren't aware of.

Could have been.

Uh, okay, now you say when you were at Windsor Center, you saw an unmarked car, uh, (unintelligible) uh, then you said one or two more police cars. Were they marked uh, vehicles?

(Sigh) I think, I think they were uh, marked vehicles.

And at any time were you, while you were at Windsor Center did you meet with any police officers?

Personally or...

(Unintelligible)

No.

Did any police officers (unintelligible).

Not personally, I don't think so.

Did you see police speaking with anybody within the group?

(Unintelligible)

Did you see them (unintelligible) anyone?

I don't remember. You know, it could have I just don't remember.

Do, do you remember or do you have any recollection of who it was who came from (unintelligible).

To somebodies house.

So you never at any time remember where you went (unintelligible)?

No.

Do you have any questions you want to ask her about?

We have just some general questions uh, [redacted]  
First do you have any personal knowledge that you could testify to, of any involvement of any Greensboro police officer in the events which occurred prior to or November 3rd?

Specific facts, no I don't have any.

Okay

I have a lot of questions about it based on...

This is, is your time you can raise the questions and give us the uh, your source of information that raises those questions.

Well, uh, the, the fact, you know, the facts of uh, that [ ] was part of the caravan that was part of the planning uh, and had been known to be an FBI informant or questions of why were policemen not even at the place uh, they were where we were...uh, at Windsor. Questions about uh, [ ] who was known to be involved in uh, you know, to be uh, infiltrating the Klan, Nazis at the time, uh, that kind of question to me uh, is something that should be answered. I know its not, I don't have any facts about uh, uh, their actual role in (unintelligible) and there should be a lot of questions regarding that.

Okay, fine.

Okay, [ ] do you have any personal knowledge as to the involvement of any federal agents, thats an agent of the Department of Justice, the FBI, ATF, or any other government agency, as to their involvement in the events of November 3rd, prior to that date or afterwards?

Well, just uh, [ ] role.

Okay. Again personal knowledge first and then any questions that you want answered as to their involvement we'd put that on the record too.

Questions that I want answered?

Yeah, as first, your personal knowledge, anything you could testify to.

I don't have that much knowledge about it. What I do know that it would, that uh, uh, [ ] has infiltrated the Klan and Nazis' and uh, yeah, I'd like to know uh, a lot of things about uh, [ ] role. I'd like to know uh, uh, you know there's been rumors all around that uh, that he planned that, that he, you know told who was going to be murdered. The CWP five were all, you know, leaders of the CWP and uh, union activists and uh, the Klan just doesn't know that kind of person. You know, so to me it, I'd like to know



those kind of things, that kind of things.

Okay. Is there anything else that you want to bring to our attention that you want to uh, have this grand jury make an inquiry into again relative to the events of November 3rd, prior to it and afterwards?

The only thing I have to say is uh, uh, as to the kind of harrassment that we got after November 3rd uh, we were the victims and my [REDACTED] uh, you know, Cesar, my friend got shot. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I (unintelligible) my baby. You know, we were the victim and every where we went we were followed, we were, pictures were taken of us. If, if the cop car didn't stay with us uh, they moved on and another one picked us up every where we went. It was just total harrassment. KKK was written on my door uh, the kind of harrassment that we got uh, you know.

Okay. I assume your referring to the police in Durham, now?

Yeah.

As compared to the police in Greensboro, because you live in Durham?

Right.

Okay.

How long did that type of activity go on (unintelligible)?

A couple of weeks definitely. But especially uh, right, the week following November 3rd. I couldn't go anywhere and my husband couldn't go anywhere without being stopped having my picture taken, uh, you know, uh, our house was, there was a car in front of our house all the time. That kind of harrassment really, really makes me angry. You know, I didn't, you know I wasn't even (unintelligible) was shot, and we get harrassed.

Okay. Is there anything else? Okay, this concludes the interview of [REDACTED] It's now approximately 11:45 A.M. April 28, 1982. Thank you very much.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6/15/82

On April 15, 1982, [redacted] was interviewed at  
Durham North Carolina. A transcript of the interview of [redacted]  
[redacted] is as follows:

Investigation on 4/15/82 at Durham, N. C. File # CE 44-3527  
by SA [redacted] mst Date dictated 4/15/82

Q 501  
Side B

b6  
b7C



This is an interview with Marty Nathan on April 15, 1982, at Durham, North Carolina. I am [redacted] Attorney with the Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice. I'll ask each individual in the room to identify themselves now.

My name is [redacted] ..a lawyer with the Greensboro Justice Fund.

[redacted] lawyer with the Greensboro Justice Fund.

[redacted] United States Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina.

[redacted] Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C.

[redacted] Attorney, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice.

[redacted] will you identify yourself please for the tape?

[redacted] ah...

Where do you currently reside please?

Durham, North Carolina.

And...are you currently employed?

No I am not.

What is your current address in Durham?

[redacted]  
How long have you lived there?

For...almost four years.

Q 501  
2.

November of '79 then you were residing at the same address that you now reside, is that correct?

That's right.

And at that time you were residing there with your husband, Doctor [redacted] is that correct?

Yeah, and my [redacted]  
[redacted]

In 1979 were you employed?

Ah...yes I was. For the first part of 1979.

Where were you employed?

[redacted]  
there...employed there up to about two months after my child was born.

When was that?

That was...I was ah...let's see, that would have been July of 1979. My child was born in April of '79.

Okay. Ah...I take it you took some time off?

Uh huh.

For the birth of your child.

Right, a month. And then after that.

Okay. What was the nature of your employment?

As a doctor.

Okay. So you're a licensed Medical Practitioner is that correct?

Yes.

Ah...in 1979, how was your husband employed and where?

He was a doctor at Lincoln Community Health Center.

And that's here in Durham?

Q 501  
3.

In Durham, yeah.

In the course of your employment were you involved in any sort of union activities?

Ah...no, I wasn't. Ah...no I wasn't. I was...did some support work that really wasn't...didn't...wasn't involved in any union activity myself.

What kind of support work did you do?

Well, I...helped my husband, who was involved and himself supporting some of the unionization and worker efforts of Durham County General Hospital. He was involved in, I think it was called Durham County Workers Association. I can't remember for sure.

And what were they attempting to achieve at that point?

Well, some of the people who worked in laundry had been contaminated. Ah...by..had..had conversion..P P D conversions which means that they had been...they'd gotten T.B. And ah...it was assumed that that was..had happened because they were working with varied...with soiled linen that had not been...you know, ah...that had not been cleaned before the ah...they were handling it. And ah...Michael, because he worked for Durham County General and also because he was interested in worker safety and health ah...helped in the formation of that Workers Association to protest that contamination.

So...was the Workers Association attempting ah...to form a union for the workers?

It was talked about ah...and I don't know where it would have gone, you know, if had not November 3, happened but, you know, a lot of people were talking about it. It was a very popular idea.

The Workers Association that your husband was involved in was ah...ongoing in it's efforts on November 3, 1979, then?

As I remember, yeah.

Did either you or your husband have any other involvement with union activity in North Carolina, in 1979?

Ah...Michael...in 1979....no. Not in 1979, I don't believe. We had..had a longer, long term, Michael more than I, interest and support in ah...activities of ah...hospital workers, organizing here at Duke but that wasn't so active in 1979

b6  
b7c

Q 501  
4.

In the Workers Association that your husband was involved in...

Uh huh.

In 1979...ah was there any issue of race involved?

Oh yeah! Most of the workers who were contaminated who work in laundry, I think maybe all of them were Black. That's the way I remember but I'm not so sure. And like I said, I was supporting him, who was doing the work.

Uh huh.

Ah...and so, there was the question of Black workers being given the most menial of jobs and being ah...being exposed to the dangers of contamination...ah...within the hospital and Durham County was completely refusing to do anything about that. And that was pointed out during the...the ah...Workers Association.

To what extent was the media coverage of this Workers Association and their efforts?

I can't remember very well...they had a picket out at the Durham County Hospital Corporation Picnic, which was.... my memory is really terrible. I can't remember when it was but it was in 1979. Ah...and I'm pretty sure there was a media coverage of that. I'm not sure whether my husband was filmed during that, I'm really not sure.

And do you know to what extent your husband's name was associated with the efforts of the Workers Association in the public media?

I really don't know. I don't remember. I just don't know.

Were either you or your husband involved in or associated with any politically active group in 1979?

Yeah. Both of us were working in 1979, with a couple of groups. I was working with African Liberation's Support Committee ah...which in the work that I was doing ah...was supporting the right of Black people to quality education. And ah...I also was involved in the Committee for Medical Aid which was sort of...was really tightly linked to African Liberations Support Committee. Ah...sending medical supplies, Mike and I worked together sending medical supplies to ah...to refugees and freedom fighters in Mosembique...ah...during the time of..of ah...the struggle for liber...liberation in Rhodesia.

With regard to your activities concerning the education issue with the African Liberation Support Committee, ah...to what extent...was that first of all here in Durham County?

b6  
b7C

Q 501  
5.

Yes. Yes it was.

To what extent was that covered by the..the public media?

It was covered a lot! But, I don't think that my participation was covered. It was...it was a big issue. The whole question was the competency test. It was a big issue.

And that, I take it from what you said that centered on a racial issue. Is that correct?

Ah...I made that....it had a big racial component but it was a question of quality education for..you know, all people, all students in public schools. But there was a big racial component to it...because ah...Black students more often ah...fail the competency test.

Any other groups that you were associated with or involved with?

I don't think so.

Did you have any association with, involvement in or were you a member of the Workers Viewpoint in 1979?

No. I mean, I..I was not a member of. I knew people who were in it and...

Okay. What about your husband...and groups that he was involved with or associated with?

Same with him.

African, African Liberation Support Committee. Was he involved in that?

Yeah.

And he was involved in the medical aid to.....

Uh huh.

Ah...Mozambique?

In Africa.

Okay. And to what extent was his involvement in either of those groups covered by the public media?

As far as I know it wasn't. I really...I don't think it was.

b6  
b7c

Q 501  
6.

b6  
b7C

Was your husband a member of Workers Viewpoint in 1979?

No. No.

Ah...now you mentioned that you had some friends who were members of Workers Viewpoint in 1979. Who are those people please?

Give us a second to chat.

Sure. Okay. Go ahead.

Ah...I knew [redacted] and [redacted] (phonetic) and ah...I had met [redacted] and ah...I knew [redacted]

Did your husband also know these persons?

Yeah. Yeah.

Ah...did you participate in any activities that the Workers Viewpoint Organization also participated in in 1979.

Ah...Yeah.

Which activities?

Several. Ah...the Workers Viewpoint were involved in the Competency Test Work. It was ah...it was involved it organized the..the Klan...the Anti- Klan Conference and march on November 3 and I was...I was there at Winsor.

Was your husband also involved in any activities that the Workers Viewpoint Organization was involved in?

Uh huh.

Which activities?

Yeah, he was involved...we were in the same ones essentially.

Okay. To what extent was ah...the Workers Viewpoint Organizations involvement of the Competency Test issue? Ah...Public knowledge or ah...portrayed in in the public media.

Gosh, that's so long ago. Ah...I really don't remember. Ah...I think it was known that the Workers Viewpoint was involved in it but I'm really not sure. I'm not sure that it was an issue. You know. It was certainly not hidden but I don't know. You know. I can't remember how much was discussed.



Q 501  
7.

Okay. Now were you aware of the Workers Viewpoint Organization's efforts in various union activities throughout the State of North Carolina?

Yes.

Did you participate in any of those?

Ah...if you're speaking of textiles no I did not. Ah...like I said, I had supported in the past with ah...hospital organizations at Duke. Ah...but I really, I just knew about what was going on in textiles and really wasn't involved in that at all.

Okay. Anything else about activities that you were associated in, associated with or ah...union activities that ah...you think are relevant that you think you should tell us about?

Well, I knew what was...I knew Jim Waller (phonetic) as well. Ah...and I had had not seen...I had known him for a long time. Ah...and I had seen what he had done out in Haw River at Granta Plant (phonetic) and I admired that incredibly because my father had been ah - union president. And ah...I knew the kind of pressures then, you know, restraints on people trying to organize good solid unions. And I saw the building of the..the union at Haw River is, really, almost awe inspiring. He really did a good job. And ah...I know the repression that came down on him after on..on the union afterwards and I saw their attempts to form ah..ah..ah..I watched their attempts to form ah..ah..independent union and you know, I thought, I just was...I really admired what they were doing but I really didn't have much to do with it.

You say the ah...pressures that existed afterward are you referring to pressures after November 3, 1979?

No. Well, I was talking about ah...after the strike, about Jim getting fired by the company and ah...yeah, and then ultimately November 3.

Did there come a time that ah...you became involved in activities concerning the Klan and Anti-Klan demonstrations? Approximately when was that and how?

I guess that it must have been...I was trying to remember...it must have been in October of '79. Ah...prior to November 3.

Did you have an involvement in any of the activities that ah..led up to China Grove?

Q 501  
8.

Yeah I did. I went down to...I'm trying to remember if this was one trip or two. I think it was just one. Ah...went down to Kannapolis and did some leafleting in Cannon Mills, where actually I had been earlier, you know, years before doing Brown Lung screening. Ah...and I also was present at the press conference in Kannapolis prior to November 3., and I didn't really participate I just went and watched.

Okay. Ah...let me see if I can clarify something now...ah...my question was ah...prior to the incident in China Grove on July....

I'm sorry. Excuse me. This is all prior to November 3, yeah, like I...no I didn't have anything to do with China Grove.

So these activities that you described including the leafleting at..at Kannapolis was prior to November 3, in October?

In October. Right.

I see.

Before we continue that...can I ask a question?

Certainly

Did Michael or Jim have involvement in the Brown Lung Association?

Yeah. They sure did.

So that would be another active political organization that they took part in?

Right. Well, Jim was the founding member of the Brown Lung Association and Jim and [ ] together pulled me into ah...the Brown Lung Screening a few years ago. That...I'm sorry, (inaudible) Ah...and we had done screening of textile workers back in '76, '77 ah...and I had worked with Jim and [ ] both, then. Michael had worked with me to.

And you said that was in Kannapolis?

Yes. It was much earlier. It was in 70...I believe '77.

Was there ah...any association of the W.V.O. with those activities?

I don't think the W.V.O. existed then. I'm not sure.

To what extent was...were those activities ah...ah...mentioned in the public media?

Q 501  
9.

Ah...I'm not sure. I really just don't remember.

Okay... And similarly....

The Brown Lung Association as a whole was mentioned...was talked about when they were struggling for...to get ah...compensation for workers with brown lung. Ah...a medical committee for human rights, which I was working with ah...did work with them a lot and I just don't know how much it was mentioned in the media. I didn't really pay much attention.

Similarly, do you know the extent to which yourself, your husband or Jim Waller were associated with those activities through the media?

I imagine Jim Waller was. I'm pretty sure he was...but I don't think that...I think I made it on to a network, I think it was CBS Network once my mother saw me. They covered...that was the Cannon..that was the Cannon (inaudible) I hadn't thought about that in years. Yeah, and I just happen to be there telling somebody to blow into his barometer. But, you know...ah...that's about all.

In your activities on the Brown Lung testing, ah...did any racial issues arise?

There was a lot of discussion of racial issues. Ah...much of what we were doing was union support in Kannapolis we were helping, we were fighting for a union down there and it had been one of, I don't know how many union drives that had gone on at Cannon in the last, you know, twenty years. And one of the things that were discussed was the company's attempt to separate Black and White workers. And you know you use racism to prevent the union from, you know, winning, you know, contracts. But it wasn't...you know racism was not the primary issue. Primary issue was occupational safety and health for all workers and worker organization. You know, and occupational safety and health as an issue in that.

You indicated that you did not become involved in Anti Klan activities until October '79?

Right.

What about your husband?

He was at China Grove and....

How did he become involved in that?

He was invited by [redacted] (phonetic)

Q 501  
10

To your knowledge did your husband participate in any of the plans or efforts to have the demonstration in China Grove in July of '79?

I don't think so. I'm trying to remember. I don't think so. As far as I know.

Do you know if he went to China Grove prior to the demonstration to talk to any of the people in the community?

No.

No he did not or no you don't....

No he did not go.

What, if anything did your husband tell you about the events that occurred at China Grove?

He told me about the incred...he, he was really...sort of blown away by it. Ah...he talked about the power and the anger of the community which was out in great numbers that day. Ah...just furies going up with sticks and clubs against these Klansmen with their automatic and rifles and shotguns and you know...they were protected by Police, you know. Ah...he was...he told me he was scared. Ah...I was told by the people whether or not he was scared...he made particular point to talk to and to give reports to White people standing around. You know, talking to them about the Klan. Ah...

Standing around where?

At the...around...I guess...I....I....I guess around the community center just looking. You know, not participating in whatever the Klan was doing but just looking. You know, they talked to them about racism and...and you know...for a lot of folks there that was a fairly...in that kind of situation...that was a fairly courageous thing to do. Ah...let's see, what else I was gonna say. I can't think of it.

Did your husband indicate to you whether he had had a particular conflicts with any of the Klan Nazi members that he encountered one day?

No. No.

Okay. Was your husband also involved in...helping prepare for the November 3, demonstration in Greensboro?

I don't think that he...I can't remember him doing anything in that way. I can't remember.

Q 501  
11.

b6  
b7C

Focusing back on your activities with regard to the November 3, demonstration, you indicated that you leafleted in Kannapolis and also attended a press conference there, is that correct?

Right.

Who else was at that press conference?

I remember [ ] and [ ] were there. And they, I think that they gave statements as I remember.

Do you recall approximately when that was?

Was it mid October? I...I really am...you know, I think it was mid, you know, somewhere around October 20, something like that. I can't remember. I'm sure you know better than I do when it was.

At any rate what you do recall was that it was in October?

Yeah.

Do you recall what was said in those press statements?

We were talking about the need to fight the Klan. To expose the Klan. To ah...that they were...ah...used by the milliners and by the government to divide people up and kill people off. You know. Ah..and that they would come out in times of economic crisis and that was what was happening. And ah...that was essentially it. I know that that was...that was the main thrust of the leaflet that we were passing out to.

Well, tell us about the leaflets specifically. What do you recall the leaflet saying. What did it look like?

It was inviting people to a conference and...I can't remember whether it said a march or not, I know it said a conference...on November 3, in Greensboro. And...it was ah...it talked about China Grove and...it talked about the need...you know, pretty much like the press conference, the need to expose ah...and fight the Klan.

Did it have any kind of photograph on it?

I don't know. I assuming it had one from China Grove but I really don't remember.

You familiar with the leaf...or the not only the leaflets but the posters that were being displayed on November 3?

Uh huh.

Q 501  
12.

Was it similar to that poster in any way?

It didn't look the same, no, the poster, you know, had three or four different pictures on it. And..this was mainly words and was talking about what the Klan was...you know, and...expressed a lot of, you know, (inaudible) about the need to fight back against these racists who were being, you know, promoting...promoted all over the State at that time.

Okay. And, I believe you said before that it did make some reference to China Grove, is that correct?

I believe but I really don't remember it that well.

Do you remember who was responsible for writing the material that was in that leaflet?

No, I really have no idea.

Did you participate in any way in writing that material?

No.

Do you recall if anybody else was ah...with you passing out these leaflets besides [redacted] and [redacted]

I really don't remember.

Okay. What else did you do to help prepare for the demonstration in Greensboro on November 3?

I was ah...I was at the meeting the night before (inaudible)

Where was that meeting?

Ah...at the bookstore.

That's here in Durham?

Here in Durham, yeah.

Who else do you recall being present at that meeting?

Michael was there..and I remember [redacted] (phonetic) was there.....a lot of people that could have been there but I'm just really not sure.

Do you recall who conducted the meeting?

Q 501 13.

[redacted] if I remember, did, did the talking that I remember.

Do you remember if Caesar Cossie (phonetic) was there?

I think he was...that's what I'm saying, you know. Ah...you know, I think he was there.

What about [redacted]

I just really don't know. I really don't.

What do you recall being said at that meeting?

Ah...I remember [redacted] saying that..I remember saying specifically that it was going to be a holiday for the working class. And the major thing that ah...in terms of any sort of danger for the day..ah...the major thing that any of us should be concerned about was police harassment.

Was there any discussion at that meeting about the Klan attending or coming to the rally?

No, no there wasn't that I remember. The major thing that was talked about to begin with...the purpose that we were there, you know, which was to expose the Klan and there was a lot of sentiment. It was talked about, you know, who the Klan was, what was their purpose. Ah...what have they been doing and what could we do to combat that. And all the racism and repression that they represented.

Was the...

That took up the majority of the meeting.

Do you recall any conversation about defending the march from harassment or Klan activities?

As I remember it was stated that would be left up to the marshals. That's what I remember, the march organizers. That....

There was no discussion ah...among all of you about what the marshals would do or who they would be?

I don't remember. I really don't.

Okay. Were you asked to be a marshal?

No I wasn't. I was doing...I was, Mike and I were doing first aid.

That was gonna be your role in the.....

Q 501  
14.

b6  
b7c

Yeah. Yeah, we had been, we had done that for a number of demonstrations and you know, we were prepared to do that.

Okay. With regard to your husband's activities prior to November 3, other than attend this meeting, do you know ah...what else he participated in to prepare for the rally?

I don't know....he may have passed out some leaflets where he worked. But I really don't know. I can't think of any specific activities that he did prior to November 3. Ah...I just don't remember. He probably passed out the leaflets at work.

Okay. Did ah...now you were not working at that time, is that right?

No.

Did you pass out leaflets any place besides Kannapolis (inaudible) the November 3 demonstration?

Yes I did. I passed them out at North Carolina Central University.

Who else participated in that?

Ah...I can't remember for sure. I think there were a couple students. Ah...

Were those leaflets the same or similar to the ones that you passed out in Kannapolis?

Ah...yeah, I think so. I think they were the same ones (inaudible)

In addition to that did you talk with any people here in Durham or in Greensboro regarding the rally and their participation in it?

Ah...I'm sure I did.

Did you specifically ah...go to Greensboro to talk to any of the people in the communities ah...

No.

In your conversations with people here in Durham did you encourage people to go to Greensboro to attend the rally?

Yeah.

To your knowledge, did any of those people go to Greensboro to participate in the rally?



Q 502  
15.

b6  
b7c

Yeah. Several people, well I know several couple people did, yeah.

Who were they?

Ah...they went to to (inaudible) at Morningside

Do you ah...any people that you talked to, were they present at Morningside on November 3?

Ah...no (inaudible).

In your conversations with people regarding attending the November 3 rally, did you discuss the issue of possible violence at the rally?

I don't think so. Ah...I...we talked about ah...you know, the necessity to fight the Klan, to expose the Klan, to ah...make political statements against the Klan and ah...that was...I don't remember ever discussing the possibility of violence with anybody because I didn't...I didn't consider the possibility.

Did you believe that the Klan would come to heckle the demonstration or participate in other activities?

You know, I didn't...it seemed a possibility but, you know, that would have been the biggest possibility that I know of, you know. What happened at Morningside I had never even conceived of.

In your conversations with people about attending the November 3 demonstration, did they ever raise questions about whether the Klan would come and potential for violence.

Ah...I'm trying to remember...ah...I believe some of the students that I was talking to and was passing out leaflets, talked about that, asked about that.

And what was your response to that?

My response was that ah...it was very important (inaudible) about the Klan and that seemed very unlikely that they would attack (inaudible) any, you know, violence.

Did you discuss with them or did they ask whether they should bring any sort of weapon to the demonstration?

Ah...no.

Q 502  
16.

Going back, to the discussion at the Bookstore on November 2, 1979, was there anything raised there that you recall, regarding whether you should bring guns or other means of defending yourself to the demonstration on November 3.

Yeah, I remember there was but we were told not to bring anything.

Do you recall who told you that?

I think it was [ ] but I'm not sure. I just remember very specifically being told that.

On November 3, itself, did you take any kind of weapon or firearm with you?

Uh uh.

To your knowledge, did your husband?

No

Take any? At that time, did you...

He took his stethoscope.

A stethoscope?

Uh huh.

Okay. Ah...at that time did either you or your husband own any kind of firearms?

Yes.

What kind of firearms did you own?

A 22 caliber pistol.

Was that the only one?

Yes.

Was that in your name or his name?

I remember, I think it was, I think it was in my name but I'm not sure.

And on November 3, 1979, where was that weapon?

It was at home.

Q 502  
17

Now, you indicated that you believed your husband may have passed out leaflets where he worked. In addition to that, do you know if he talked with any other people about their attendance at the November 3 rally?

I really don't know because he was..he was spending most of his time at work and I just really don't know about that.

Did you and he have any conversations about the rally and the Klan coming and whether there was any potential for violence?

We had discussions about...we talked about why it was necessary to do it. We talked about it a lot that time. Ah..he was...his parents...his..his family on his father's side had been many of them, as I understand it, had been murdered by Nazis in Europe. And...he had a really....had a lot of hatred for fascism. And he saw it...in what he was doing as coming out of that. You know, against that kind of racist, fascist, hatred. You know, and the need for...the only way...you know, what happened in Europe, was the government supported the Nazi in their rise to power and the only affected struggle against that was people getting together. We talked about that a lot. We did a lot of reading about it and everything. And that was the main thrust of what, of what we talked about between the two of us. Ah...you know, both of us...I remember saying that we hoped that nothing would happen. Ah...that I had understood later that...that the Greensboro Police...the Greensboro Police had provided absolute protection...had authori...had said that they would provide absolute protection for the march. There was a parade permit ah...and certainly our understanding and the understanding of the march organizers was that no violence was expected. But we knew that it was....we talked mainly about how important it was for us to go.

You mentioned that your understanding and the understanding of the march organizers was that there would be no violence. How did you come to that understanding and what organizers are you talking about?

I'm talking about [redacted] ah...you know, no one that I knew of expected anything. Ah...Like I said. I...I think I knew it then, I'm not sure...ah...Captain [redacted] had told [redacted] that there was...that there would be absolute police protection that day. And...some of the major hassles as I understood come from the police prior to November 3.

Did you ever speak with Doctor Waller (phonetic) concerning potential violence on November 3 ?

No (inaudible)

Q 502  
18.

Okay, on November 3, itself, ah...what time did you leave Durham to go to Greensboro?

Oh dear....we got there around 10:30 is what I'd guess. So we must have left about 9:30. Ah...

Who'd you go with?

Ah...I took...I drove my car, our car and took some students from Winsor community.

Those were the people that were with you at Winsor Community Center? Among the people that were with you?

Yeah, yeah. Yes they all stayed (inaudible)

What about your husband?

Ah...he came in his...in another car and we met there at Greensboro. His car...his blue car.

Who did he come with? Or; who came with him?

I don't know. I don't remember for sure.

What kind of a car was he driving?

A blue Colt. (Inaudible)

So you proceeded directly to the Winsor Community Center, is that correct?

Ah...yeah.

Why did you go to the Winsor Community Center?

I didn't...I did not know where I was suppose to go. I had no idea. I didn't know Greensboro. I had spent very little time there. Ah...and I just...see the (inaudible) it was sort of ah...it was a very informal caravan and I just followed the car ahead of me which I believe was being driven by Caesar but I can't remember for sure. Or, someone said, Caesar knows where to go. I don't know. Ah...but anyway we just went straight to Winsor.

Okay, and ah...does that mean that Caesar went to Winsor also, initially?

Yes, I remember he was there.

Q 502  
19.

What kind of car did he drive that day?

I'm not sure. Ah...I know...I know that sounds crazy to say that I followed Caesar and I'm not sure which car...but I really don't remember because...I'm a little confused because I know that he and Jim drove over from Winsor to Morningside in Tom's truck. But I don't know if that's...for some reason that..it doesn't stick in my mind that that's the car that he drove. He probably drove his own car but I'm just not sure.

Okay. Was, do you recall, that ah...when you say Tom's truck, are you talking about [REDACTED]

Uh huh.

Ah...do you recall [REDACTED] truck being at Winsor when you arrived?

What I remember, I don't know if it was there when I arrived. What I remember is that Jim came up to me, after I had been there for about 15 minutes or so and asked me ah...if whoever was responsible for first aid, in charge of first aid...either Mike or me or whoever, would they please come on over with him to Morningside. He didn't tell me Morningside, he just said come with me.

Uh huh.

And since ah....Mike and I flipped a coin the night before and said that he was in charge, I told him to go on over and they drove over....Jim and Caesar, as I understand, drove over in [REDACTED] truck and they drove my car, my red car, which had the first aid stuff in it. He drove it on over to Morningside.

And you stayed at Winsor?

Yeah.

Do you recall what time it was that Jim and Caesar and Mike drove over to (inaudible)?

You couldn't date it by me. My sense of time and everything that happened that morning, it's really, completely useless. I would say it was somewhere between a quarter of eleven, eleven, but I don't remember.

How many people do you recall being at Winsor, while you were there?

Ah...about thirty...thirty-five, something like that.

Did that include children?

Yes it did.

How many of those thirty to thirty-five were children?

Ah...I think it was about...eight or ten. Something like that.

What did you do at Winsor that morning?

You mostly stood around and...and chanted and sang and listened to people speaking over the...the mike and noticed the police surveillance. Which there...as I remember...I do not remember any police marked cars except there was one when I first drove in. And he left. But I do remember police surveillance cars taking pictures.

First, with regard to the marked car that was there when you arrived, you indicated it left.

Yes.

Approximately how long was it there ah...before it left?

It was just a couple minutes. I remember it being there as I pulled in and I'm pretty sure it left almost immediately.

Did you ever see the officers out of their vehicle?

No. I wasn't close enough to the..to the police car itself.

Did you see anybody talking with them?

No. I wasn't looking..it could have happened but I wouldn't..I wouldn't know.

You mentioned that there was some police surveillance units there. How many units do you recall seeing?

I know that there were...I was trying to remember this. It's really, it's really once again...my memory that morning is very poor. I remember talking to people about ah...them taking pictures and ah...I remember, I believe it was a blue car. It's kind of confusing cause since then I've talked to people about a red car and I'm not sure whether that's been implanted in my mind or whether that actually happened too but I remember a blue car and I remember, very vividly remember that camera lense...and talking with other people about it. You know, why the harassment.

What you recall seeing is a blue car and someone in that blue car taking photographs?

Q 502  
21.

b6  
b7C

Yes.

What made you think that that was a police vehicle.

Well, that's generally what police do in Greensboro.

Do you recall how many people were in that vehicle?

No I don't.

The person who's taking the photographs, apparently taking the photographs was he on the passenger's side or the driver's side of the car?

Humph! I don't remember for sure.

Did you see how he was dressed?

No, I remember very vividly the camera lense. I don't remember much else.

Did you see any kind of radio antennas or anything else in the car?

I didn't notice.

Approximately how long did you notice them in that area?

He was there at least for, you know, ten, fifteen minutes. But I don't remember exactly when he left or whether he did or whatever, you know.

Did you at anytime see a marked police unit return to the Winsor Community Center?

No.

Did you see any uniformed officers ah...among the crowd or attempting to talk to people in the crowd at Winsor?

No. Except at the very beginning when that police was there when we first drove in.

Right. Other than that one you didn't see anybody. You didn't see those officers out of the car?

I don't remember seeing them.

Ah...did you see [redacted] that morning at the Winsor Community Center?

Q 502  
22.

I don't believe that he was there, when I was there. I remember [ ] was there but I don't believe I saw him.

[ ] remain there the entire time that you were there?

As I remember, yeah.

Do you remember any news media persons being at the Winsor Community Center?

Yes. In fact I talked to...I remember there was some students from a college near Salisbury ah...and I...believe I remember another station wagon that was some T.V. channel but I don't remember which one it was. Ah...

Did you see them conduct any interviews or anything of that nature?

Yeah...I talked very briefly with the students then I referred them to [ ] who was with (inaudible) and she talked them as I understand, if I remember.

Do you know if anybody, at the Winsor Community Center have the responsibility to direct the news media to Everett and Carter Street?

I don't know.

Did you hear any conversations of that nature between people of the news media and persons who were assembled there at Winsor Community Center?

I doubt it because I myself did not know Everett...anything was going on at Everett and Carter Street so...

Did you know that the rally was going to commence at a location other than the one you were at?

I knew that there were two starting points. I did not know where the other starting point was.

Why were there two starting points?

I'm really not sure because I was not one of the organizers. I know what has been said that one...that Winsor was the place for people like me, who were coming in from out of town, which was easily accessible and then, you know, the march was where they just start at Morningside. And that's exactly how it worked, you know, in fact because I would never have been able to get to Morningside.



Uh huh. Did you understand that the march was going to procede by Winsor Community and that would be....

That's what I heard that day. I heard that day.

Now, any, anything else that occurred at Winsor Community Center that you think is relevant?

There were no police. I think that's really important.

Uh huh. Okay...ah...anything else?

Ah...not that I know of.

When was the first time that you became aware that something had occurred (inaudible).

I didn't know what had happened when the march organizers told us to get...well first of all, I saw police cars go by with sirens screaming. And there were four or five, something like that. They just kept going by. And, it didn't really occur to me at the time, what was going...I had no idea what was going on. And then the march organizers said get...you know, get in your cars and leave (inaudible) And we did. And then we rallied at another place you know, away from Winsor and ah...[redacted] sought me out and asked me ah...because I was a doctor and ah...said that some people had been hurt. (Inaudible)

Did she indicate to you then who those people were?

Ah...she ah...had said that she had heard that it was, I'm trying to remember, Bill, and Sandy and Jim, that I remember and I said, hurt? And she said, no, dead. And I just....I said okay, let's go. So we got into the car and we went over to Morningside. And ah...

Would you like to take a couple of minutes?

We got...we got over to Morningside and ah...the place was cordoned off and there were a couple hundred community people standing around. People were ah...a lot of people were yelling and ah...it was obvious people were very very angry. Ah...I remember seeing [redacted] and [redacted] hugging each other, crying and ah...trying to figure out what had happened...and what we could do. The ambulances were...I went up to the cordon and ah...the ambulances were putting two bodies in the ambulance, the EMT's were putting two bodies in the truck of ah...in the back of the ambulance and I...it's an amazing thing to realize that, you know their heads were covered and they were dead. And all I could see were some boots and ah. [redacted] (inaudible) was standing right nearby saying would you please let me kiss him and the EMT man said no lady, stay away. And I said, I said

Q 502  
25.

b6  
b7C

(continued) [redacted] what's wrong. She said Caesar's dead and they won't let me kiss him goodbye. So I went up to the EMT man and I said I'm a doctor, I order you to let her kiss her husband goodbye. So he let her do it. And...then I, you know, I couldn't figure out, the wounded I guess were taken away by that time, we couldn't...you know, there wasn't anything for us to do. And so I was just sort of wandering around and I ran into a friend and asked where's Mike? And..she said that ah...Mike's been hit. And she didn't want to look at me and I said, you know, is he dead? She said I don't know. So, you know, I started, I just went and I started calling hospitals. Ah...trying to find out where people were, you know, even bodies or...or wounded, had been taken. I remember them coming, I don't know exactly where this fitted into...it was all...I was in kind of a daze but I do remember coming out at one point and ah...I guess it was in between telephoning or something, no, actually this was before I learned about Michael. And...Yeah, this is out of sequence...ah...it was after [redacted] had kissed her husband goodbye there were cops standing right in front of him with their bayoneted rifles or shotguns or whatever, standing in front of the cordon keeping people out...out of the street and [redacted] started to say something and he told her to shut up. The cop told her to shut up and then I started yelling at him....you know, her husband's been killed and you killed him and I swore at him and ah...he told me he was.. I'd better watch out or he was gonna throw me in jail for obscenity. (Inaudible) throw me in jail for abscentity. So anyway, that's pretty much all I remember after that. I found out where Mike was. And went to the hospital. I do remember at one point, I think, people breaking through the cordon but I don't remember. I don't know what that was all about.

Did you ever talk with anybody that could give you any information about how Mike got killed?

No, not really. Ah...nobody knew for sure. As I remember...for a long time, and I don't remember what was said on the scene or what was said later. (inaudible) Immediately within the first few days, I remember nobody knew for sure how he got shot. Nobody that I talked to but that doesn't mean, you know, I was pretty isolated in that hospital so...

Well what about later conversations, has anybody give you give you information concerning how he got shot?

Ah...as I understand, and I'm sure you know better than I do ah...he was near where Jim was. And ah...

When you say Jim, are you referring to Jim...

Wyler.

Jim Wyler.

Inaudible...I don't know the scene very well, I really don't cause I wasn't...

I understand.

Ah...and I understand that he may have been involved in the fist fight near Jim. But, I don't know. Ah...but I know that he was shot in the head. That's about all.

Well, what have you heard regarding the fist fight that Jim was involved in that your husband may have been involved in?

I know what I read in the papers and I really don't know much more than that. You know, I've read about the stuff with the gun, the shotgun and I don't know. I really don't know much about what (inaudible)

Okay. Now you've mentioned the absence of the police at Winsor Community Center...do you have ah...any knowledge either yourself or from some source that you can identify for us, regarding the involvement of any Greensboro Police Officer in the events of that day?

I know, I know that Edward Dawson was working for the Metro Police, I know that he was called by [redacted] on...sometime in mid October and told ah..to find out [redacted] would know what to do...what the Klan was planning on doing about the November 3 march. I know that he went down to Lincolnton and recruited people for the Klan Nazi Motor Caravan...I don't know where else he went to to recruit...Ah...I know that he reported to [redacted] that morning at least twice...I'm not sure it was [redacted] but it was at least to the Greensboro Police and told them that everybody had a gun and they were planning on confronting the marchers. Ah...I know that [redacted] took pictures on the (inaudible) or [redacted] whichever one. He was in the car, took pictures on the ramp by 85 and followed em all the way into Morningside. Saying things at one point, I think, in the police report he says the (inaudible). And I know that there were no police there. I know that [redacted] parked only a half block away and [redacted] took pictures of my husband getting murdered. And ah...

Is that information based on information that you've learned through public media and the police report?

Uh huh. That's right. And ah..I know that Edward Dawson is a former informant for the FBI. I know there was an investigation going on by the FBI...the Workers Viewpoint Organization prior to November 3, which was denied by the Washington office of the FBI after November 3,

(Continued) but admitted by (inaudible). I know that ah...

Again, the source of that information is the public media?

Right. The Durham Morning Herald. Ah...I know that ah...the FBI threatened [redacted] in the hospital, on November 3, as he was bleeding from slash wounds inflicted on him that morning. I know...

Tell us about that.

That's all I know. Ah...

Is that..is that something that you..is, that something somebody else told you about?

That's right.

Who told about that?

I believe [redacted] told me. Ah...I know that ah...what else do I know.... I know that [redacted] (phonetic) infiltrated the Winston-Salem Nazi in July, '79 and was in on their planning meetings, it was the United Racist Meeting, he was in on their planning meetings after July of '79, he at least offered them...he told them to bring guns and go to the march. Go meet with the Klan to attack the marchers. Ah...that he was not there that morning, that he either offered or threatened to burn down Ron Wayne Wood's (phonetic) house on November 4 in the Gilford County Court House, I believe, maybe police building, I'm not sure which and then he disappeared. And I know that none of the ATF, the FBI, Justice Department, I know that an investigation by you in April of 1980, lead to letters sent to [redacted] [redacted] which said that the Greensboro Police were exonerated, were not culpable of any civil rights violations of (inaudible) 1980. And eight months later you were commending, not you, the Justice Department, was commending that there was no jurisdiction to investigate the case.

With regard to the information about [redacted] (phonetic) is that again from the public media that you....

Yes.

Ah...with regard to ah...the letter that was sent to the Greensboro Police Department, have you read that letter?

No I have not.

And your information concerning that letter again is through the public media.

Q 502  
27.

That's right.

And with regard to the statements concerning the lack of jurisdiction is that through the public media?

That's through direct ah...that through talking with [REDACTED] (phonetic).

So those statements were [REDACTED] statements?

Yeah, about the Justice Department stands.

Was that while he was U.S. Attorney or was that subsequent?

That was while he was U.S. Attorney.

Okay. Anything else that you think is relevant?

Ah...No. I guess not. Except that I want..I want to see full investigation and exposure of the government's role in my husband's murder. And it's not just me that wants it. There are thousands and thousands and thousands of people that are watching this. And we better have it.

Well, I assure you [REDACTED] that ah...we intend to do a full and thorough investigation and have them do that and ah...where ever that falls, that falls. And if that's on the shoulders of the government, it's on their shoulders.

I see.

Is there anything else anybody would like to ask?

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6  
b7CDate of transcription 6/15/82

On April 15, 1982, [ ] was interviewed at Durham, North Carolina. A transcript of the interview is as follows:

Investigation on 4/15/82 at Durham, N.C. File # CE 44-3527-4103 <sup>SUBA</sup>  
by SA [ ] / mst Date dictated 4/15/82

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6/15/82

On May 3, 1982, [REDACTED] was interviewed at  
Richmond, Virginia. A transcript of the interview is as follows:

Investigation on 5/3/82 Richmond, Virginia File # CE 44-3527- SLUBA  
by SA [REDACTED] / mst Date dictated 5/3/82 404

Okay, this is [redacted] I'm a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation; assigned to Greensboro, North Carolina. This is May 3, 1982 and we're at Richmond, Virginia for an interview of [redacted]. The other parties in the room are her attorneys and [redacted] from the Department of Justice; [redacted] from the FBI. At this time I'd appreciate it please if you'd all identify your voices for the recording.

[redacted] My name is [redacted] with the Greensboro Justice Fund and we would note our continuing objection to [redacted] conducting the interview.

[redacted] Greensboro Justice Department.

[redacted], Special Agent,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C.

[redacted] Attorney, U. S. Department  
of Justice.

Okay, [redacted] would you please identify yourself by your full name?

My name is [redacted]

And where do you reside now, [redacted]

In Richmond, Virginia.

Your address please.

[redacted]  
And how long have you lived in Richmond, Virginia?

For one year.

And in the period of 1979, where did you live?

Uh, I lived in two places in 1979. I lived in Greensboro, North Carolina and approximately September 1 of 79 moved to [redacted] North Carolina.



Okay, and back in 1979, were you married?

Yes.

Your husband's name please.

[REDACTED]

Okay, and in 1979, were you employed?

Yes.

And for whom were you employed?

I was employed, I had two employers, uh, for the first part while I resided in Greensboro I worked for Cone Mills Corporation and when I moved to [REDACTED] uh, I got a job with Cannon Mills.

Okay, and that was in about September, 1979.

Right, uh, there was only a period of about three weeks I was unemployed.

Okay, uh, in 1979, while you were employed with Cone Mills were you active in any union activity?

Yes. I was an elected, uh, shop steward of, uh, Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union.

And that was for Cone Mills employees?

Cone Mills. Uh, it was for. . .

And how long . . .

. . . specifically White Oak, uh, 'cause not all Cone plants had ACTWU.

Okay, and for approximately how long had you been shop steward?

Uh, I, I'm not really sure. I think a year. I'm not really sure.

And after, was your transfer from Cone Mills voluntary to go to Kannapolis?

Yeah, I just, uh, quit, I, actually, I, uh, I quit my job at Cone and about a week later I got a job at Cannon which I commenced about a week later.

Okay, were you involved in any, uh, union activity while you were at Kannapolis?

(Sighs) No, although, uh, that was minimal. It was, uh, I wouldn't say no. That was the purpose for going there, uh, one purpose for moving to Kannapolis, uh, and as a matter of fact, uh, I was aware that I thought that, uh, Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers had sent a organizer there to that area at the same time so, uh, it was, it was my intention to, uh, assist in, you know, starting a union 'cause it is an unorganized, you know, or was. After November 3, uh, for the first period of time that I worked there I was naturally on a probationary period where I wouldn't come in right away talkin' about union. Uh, and after November 3, uh;

Okay, your husband now was he also employed in 1979?

Yes.

And was he also involved in union activity?

Yeah.

And for whom was he employed?

He worked for Cone Mills in Greensboro in 1979 and he worked for Cannon Mills too in 1979.

So approximately at the same time you both went down to Kannapolis for employment?

Right.

Okay, uh, were you also affiliated or associated with in any, uh, way any political or social active groups in Greensboro or in the state of North Carolina?

I was active with the White Oak Organizing Committee, uh, which was a rank and file caucus, uh, uh, we were tryin', our purpose was to improve the union of workers at White Oak, whatever, uh, the workers themselves chose to do or, uh, I would say 90% of the time we were tryin', uh, strengthen ACTWU's presence in Cone Mills, uh, although we did, uh, talk to various other, uh, labor organizations like Teamsters and talked to the organizer there tryin' to put the workers at White Oak in a better position to negotiate with the company.

Okay, did there come a time you, you became familiar with the Workers Viewpoint Organization?

Uh huh.

Okay, tell us about that.

Mainly through Bill Sampson, uh, who was workin' at the same mill and was, uh, very active in the White Oak Organizing Committee with us.

b6  
b7c

Okay, from your association in the unions and also from your association with Bill Sampson, did there come a time when you became aware of a rise in Klan activity in the state of North Carolina or other parts of the southeast United States?

It wasn't through Bill or, uh, wasn't primarily through Bill, it was from the newspapers. It was just, you know, I read the newspapers regularly and still do and it, uh, became evident if, if what the media was reporting was true that, uh, there did seem to be a rise in Klan activity, at least they were getting a lot of coverage. And nearby in Winston Salem, you couldn't help you know, escape noticing that, uh, there had been a lot of activity in Winston Salem to a rally planned to try and have a public library display, etcetera, but I, and I know that there were demonstrations against that but I had no part in it. I just read about it in the newspaper.

Okay, other than the knowledge you obtained from the news media about the, uh, demonstration at Forsythe County Library in February of 1979, did you know anybody who participated in that, uh, demonstration?

No. I didn't know anybody.

Okay, other than the, you're not . . .

I have known someone, but I didn't know of anybody participating in it.

I'm sorry. You said you knew of . . .

I don't, I may have kn . . . I may know somebody but I, I . . .

Oh, yeah, okay.

I don't know of anybody who did. No.

Okay, uh, other than through the news media, uh, had there ever been a period during your union activities that the Ku Klux Klan had any direct confrontation with you or any other members of your union activities in Greensboro?

b6  
b7C

I'm not sure I understand that question.

Well, did the Klan ever, come a time when the Klan and your union activities ever had a confrontation? When they counter demonstrated against your union activities or any pickets or strikes that you may have participated in?

Well, uh, (Pause) it, no, they didn't picket. Uh, but there were, uh, older workers at the mill I worked in, uh, that had, uh, informed, you know, younger people there who worked there and people working with the White Oak Organizing Committee that the Klan had a history of coming to whenever, uh, White Oak, uh, White Oak workers had been out on strike a couple of years before I think in the late 60's was the last time there had been, uh, Klan activity that was clearly anti what they were doing and anti labor is the way I interpreted it. And, uh, there was a general feeling among the pro-union workers there that that this was a quite a possibility and they informed us that, you know, that they, we could expect that, uh, the Klan might pop up as we get more active.

Okay, did there come a time in July of 1979 when you became aware of a Klan rally to be scheduled at China Grove, North Carolina?

Uh huh.

Okay, tell us how you became aware of it.

I read it in the newspaper.

Okay, did there come a time when you in anyway participated in a counter demonstration against that Klan rally?

Yes. I saw a leaflet, uh, put out, I'm not really sure who put it out but I saw a leaflet and I went and demonstrated at China Grove against the Klan.

Okay, when was your first trip to China Grove?

That, that, whenever that demonstration was, approximately around July 4.

Okay, so . . .

That was my first time.

. . . the date of the demonstration is July 8, 1979. That was your first occasion to go to China Grove?

Right.

Okay, tell us your actions on the morning of, uh, and the day of July 8, 1979.

Uh, well, I went to the demonstration at China Grove with my husband and, uh, uh, there was a little rally before the demonstration in the, in front of a community center in the black community and, uh, we well all marched as a unit of people in the community and there were people from Charlotte I believe, uh, it seemed like several a couple of hundred people, maybe not that many, but something like a couple of hundred people who marched to the, uh, community center in China Grove proper I guess. Uh, and

as we approached we saw, uh, we knew they were holding, uh, showing a recruiting film for the Klan and, uh, as we were marching there actually there were some men in uniforms that drove past us in cars. I didn't know what kind of uniform it was and, uh, even wondered at the time whether they were Nazis. But not right away. I really thought it was some kind of American military.

Can you describe the uniforms?

It was a white, it was like a white summer uniform. It, I really did not understand who this was, you know, and I thought we were going to a demonstration against the Klan. I didn't know that there could be Nazis involved at this point. And it, uh, only only was in retrospect that I thought you know maybe those were Nazis. Uh, which to me is . . .

Can you recall if these para-military or white shirts coming by, if they had any emblems or symbols on them?

They, they might have, but I didn't recognize it. It really was, uh, you know, I saw them and I was really confused about who they were. I mean I knew they weren't policemen and they didn't, there was no, it wasn't any uniform I was familiar with, you know. I didn't know what they were. It was just kinda, it was scarey, but we came up to the center and they had what I thought were, uh, automatic or semi-automatic weapons and it was, we were not, I don't think I, I didn't think in my mind and I didn't talk to anybody in the march before and we didn't think it was gonna be that kind of confrontation. Uh, that they they were gonna have weapons openly displayed and pointing them at us.

Okay, tell me in the group that you marched with where were you in that group?

b6  
b7c

Uh, in the middle somewhere. I wasn't in the front or the, or the rear.

Okay, what did you observe the demonstrators you were with carrying?

Uh, holsters and, uh, some of the, uh, there was some, you know, rather younger children you know even 12 years old, you know, and some of 'em had, uh, rocks in their pockets, you know. I don't, I guess there was just a general feelin' of, you know, they needed some kind of protection.

Okay, were the other demonstrators carryin . . .

I didn't see any of 'em throwing them.

Okay, did any of the demonstrators you were with carry any kind of clubs or bats with them that you observed?

I don't remember.

Can you just, . . .

It was not a, I didn't, I don't think we were really armed like you know with bats and stuff but it wasn't, that's not my recollection.

Okay, do you recall if, uh, you observed any weapons among the demonstrators you were with?

No, not at the march. In fact it was, it was expressly we weren't going to, and in fact, it was announced. I'm not sure by who but one of the organizers of the march said we're not going to come and be provocative and come in here with a lot of, with weapons. If you have them keep them at, you know, at home. This was to the people in the community. And and when we come back we'll, you know, we we believed in, uh, armed self defense for the, you know, community and that, of course, people can defend their homes and

b6  
b7C

that's perfectly legal. So that was the, that was my understanding of what the purpose was.

Okay, you indicated earlier that when you arrived at the, uh, community center in China Grove there was a group of men standing on the porch and they were armed, is that correct?

Right.

Okay, were these people in any type uniform?

Uh, I don't think they were. You know, uh, I I don't really remember seein' the people in uniforms, uh

Do you recall seein' anybody in any kind of robes?

Oh yeah, there was a policeman there, I mean a regular policeman, you know.

Do you recall seein' any kind of robes or any kind of a symbol of the Klan like that?

I, uh, I did someone with a robe I believe.

And you said some of them were carrying what you believed to be automatic type weapons.

Well, I don't know if they were automatic. They were scarey lookin', they weren't ordinary shotguns. That's about all I knew.

So . . .

They looked like somethin' that could do some damage, you know.

Okay, did, uh, did you also see shotguns?

I saw handguns. I'm not sure, uh, the only I for sure remember is something along the line of, uh, semi-automatic or, uh, somethin', you know, it wasn't a shotgun and handguns. I don't know about shotguns.

b6  
b7C



Uh huh, uh, a shoulder type weapon.

I don't really know that much about . . .

I understand. And you saw some handguns.

Yeah.

Where were they carryin' the handguns?

In their hands, I thought. But I'm not sure.

Well, they actually had 'em in their hands rather than holstered on their hip or somethin' like that.

They could have had 'em on their hip and I just know they were there. I don't remember.

Okay, and the people that you observed with weapons, what did they do with their weapons?

Okay, they did, some of them did point them at the, at the crowd of demonstrators. No question about it, you know, in a very threatening way.

Was there any kind of exchange of, uh, language back and forth between the two groups?

Well, the demonstrators were chanting.

Okay, what what were they chanting?

Uh, (Pause) You know, uh, no more Klan, uh, it was focused against the Klan, it was anti Klan chants, I don't know.

Okay, do you recall the, uh, any statements or any, uh, calls made by the demonstrators on the porch from the Klan?

Uh, anything they said?

Uh huh.

b6  
b7C

No, I, uh, no, it was, uh, I was really frightened and, uh, I know it sounds like I don't remember a whole lot but, uh, I, I just on the periphery, I stood away on the edge of the grass. That, uh, I had gone on the lawn on the community center and I couldn't, couldn't see all that well it seemed like. Perhaps it was just my confused state of mind. I felt like I couldn't get a good grasp on what was happening and I was tryin' to see if there was any, you know, danger of anything seriously gonna jump off. I was tryin' to see, see what it was like and I was relieved when, uh, the, you know, it was determined, uh, the demonstrators would back off and we would march around the community center and continue to chant.

Okay, you stated you did observe a police officer there at that location.

Uh huh. I did.

And what was he doin'?

Uh, he was just standing there, I think.

On the, on the porch (Unintelligible)

Yeah, uh, he was, he was already there with the so called Klansmen. He was already stationed there when we came up.

Okay, what happened after the, uh, demonstrators arrived at the center there and there was yells back and forth between the two groups. What occurred then?

Uh, then, uh, there was some discussion actually, uh, some of the, somebody in the, from the community I thought, somebody suggested we go around the building and several people and this was my own sentiment, you know, said no, we're not gonna do that, you know. And then I think somebody like [redacted] was, uh, appeared to be organizing, helping organize, said no, we wouldn't do that we would continue on up the street, go way around and get some distance from them.

Okay, did you observe anyone burn a flag while you were there?

Yeah, I think I saw . . .

Okay, tell us about that.

. . . a flag burning. Uh, there's not much, I mean, I, I saw, I started seein' it after the flag was already burning. It was a, it was a confederate flag, uh, it wasn't an American flag. I think there was an American flag there but I don't think anybody did anything to the American flag. I'm not sure.

Does anybody, do you recall, uh, who the person was that was observed burning that flag?

Huh uh.

Okay. Okay, after the incident, that incident occurred, uh, and you started to leave the area tell us what happened.

When we started to leave the area, we circled the community center of, uh, street, uh, it did put us at some distance at a point but we came back by the community center and marched on back to the, uh, community center and the black community right outside of China Grove I guess.

Okay, the demonstrators that you were with, uh, describe them racially. What was the predominant race that was present at China Grove.

Black

Can you tell me a proportion? How many blacks as to white people and the approximate - a hundred and fifty two people . . .

I thought there was a majority of black people at the demonstration that was what I thought.

Okay.

And the majority I didn't even know.  
And I assumed they were from the surrounding area.

Okay, do you. . . on the, do you recall on the way back from your demonstration at China Grove back, moving back to the west side community center, did anything occur on the way back? To your knowledge.

No incidents that I, no.

Okay, can you tell us what occurred after you returned back to the China Grove comm, uh, west side community center?

There were, uh, this was something like a ral, uh, a, you know, a rally that continued there and there was discussion about, uh, just what, you know, how the, well, several people really talked about the, uh, roll of uh the Klan in dividing people, you know, uh, textile workers in particular. Uh, and how that it had been difficult in that area where they had to tried to, these were black workers who worked for, I thought, I think Cannon Mills. I think they identified Cannon Mills, said that this had been an ongoing problem and that they jus, you know, we didn't wanta see the general sentiment and that people who were agreeing with the speaker did not want to see a rise of the Klan because what this meant it would be more difficult for textile workers to organize themselves into union. And, uh, you know, knew for a fact that at the time there was, or somewhere around that time there was, uh, a textile plant that was undergoing uh an organizing drive so this was a very immediate issue.

Okay, did there come a time when you observed any weapons at this community center or in the community around it?

Yes. Uh, uh, there were, there were weapons brought out as people went back to that community center and it was, seemed to be all

b6  
b7C

in the context of defending the community, you know, if there would be any retaliation for that, for the, uh, demonstration.

Was there some fear among the people there that there might be?

Yes. Definitely. And, uh, there were, uh, a lot, uh, parents came out, you know, and got the small children into their homes, so there was definitely a feeling that, uh, particularly as evening fell there might be some kind of, you know, attack on the black community was what the feeling was.

Okay, and how long did you stay in China Grove that day?

We left before dark. We left late afternoon.

Did you return to Greensboro?

Went right home.

Did you and your husband travel together?

Uh huh. To and from.

Okay, back in July, 1979, did you own a weapon, you, either you or your husband?

Uh huh.

Did you bring it with you to China Grove?

Uh, I did.

What kind of weapon did you bring with you?

I brought the same gun that I brought today.

Well, describe it just for the tape please.

Oh. It's, uh, revolver, uh, it's a small .38 or .357. It takes either kind of bullet. I brought it for my own self defense and it was very fortunate I didn't have to use it.

b6  
b7C

Where did you, uh, bring it with you?  
Did you have it in your car or your  
purse or what?

I had it, uh, I had it, I had it in the  
car in the truck. We were in the truck.  
Uh, and then when we got back to the  
black community I put, I put it on my  
purse 'cause there was a real atmosphere  
uh, people believed. I was taking my  
cues from people who lived in that  
community. They were saying they really  
felt that after our demonstration there  
was danger and I certainly felt traveling  
home I was glad to have that with me.

Okay, so while you were actually marching  
with the demonstrators that weapon was  
in the, your truck . . .

Uh huh.

And where was that parked at?

Somewhere near the community center in the  
black community.

Which end?

Out, right outside of, uh, I think that the  
town limits of China Grove or right, ends  
right there before you go into the black  
community. I'm not sure if the truck was in  
town or not.

Okay, after you returned from China Grove, then  
tell me what occurred after that.

When I went home that night?

The next, yeah, the next few weeks in general.

Uh, basically, uh, it was a resumption. . . That  
that particular demonstration was kind of a  
break in what I had, was a continuation of  
same time, most of the things I was doing active  
in was the union work, you know, we were, we  
were really persistently trying to develop the

b6  
b7C

White Oak Organizing Committee. Uh, we at that point had approached Teamsters Union organizer, we were following up on, uh, trying to get a union who would better represent the workers. This is what the workers that I worked around asked, they requested it, so we were following up on that. I would say that, most of my, except for going to work and taking care of my child and basic necessities of life, that's the only thing I was doing.

Okay, do you, from your work within the union, uh, and in Cone Mills, did you come to know Sandra Smith?

Uh huh.

And how long did you know her?

Well, I didn't know her very well, uh, until I knew her as the, you know, the head of the Organizing drive at Revolution Mills which is another Cone Mill and, uh, has no, was unorganized in the sense of having no official labor organization and no official union at Revolution. I knew her as the, uh, by reputation, you know as being the, uh, organizer of that and had attended meetings that, uh, she presided over for organizing, uh, Cone workers, uh, I knew, she also moved to Kannapolis about the same time I did and, uh, was going to assist us in tryin' to unionize Cannon workers.

Okay, did you know [redacted] during this period also?

As, yes, uh, he, uh, he had worked at Cone before I did, Cone Mills, he worked at another Cone plant and I met with him once or twice about, uh, uh, the issue of, you know, the resurgence of the Klan and how that would affect the union work. I didn't meet with him, just me and him, but I was in a meeting where he was explaining, you know, helping to

b6  
b7C

draw out what, uh, how this would hurt our efforts at unionizing, uh, so . . .

Okay.

. . . that's the main way

Uh huh during this period did you know

I knew him, uh, by, I I think I'd seen him in a meeting where he, he spoke on, uh, organizing for this demonstration.

Okay, how about [redacted]?

Yes.

Alright, tell us how you knew [redacted].

Well, uh, he was the [redacted] of the union at Hall River, uh, and I attended a couple of meetings, union meetings at, uh, the Cone Ri. . Cone Mills Hall River plant to, uh, uh, one thing we were doing was assisting uh, union drive at the Eno (phonetic) plant which is near Hall River, another Cone plant and, uh, we were, we had, uh, various, a fund raiser, uh, a rally to support the, uh, Hall River strike and I was present there. I was basically assisting their, when they, when Hall workers went on strike I, uh, was involved in support work for that strike.

Okay.

And that's where I met [redacted].

And did you get to know Caesar Corsay?

I really didn't know Caesar, no.

Okay, uh, you left Cone Mill in the, or on the first of September, 1979, and went down to Kannapolis and you worked there at the Cannon Mills in Kannapolis . . .

Uh huh.



Okay, did there come a time, uh, after you had moved from Greensboro, uh, to Kannapolis that you became aware of a rally to be planned in Greensboro?

Uh huh.

Okay, can you tell us about that, how you became aware of it.

Uh, I, uh, became aware of it through, uh, both Sandy Smith telling me about it and, uh, also it was in our local paper in Kannapolis. There was a press conference held with, uh, [redacted] and [redacted] right in front of Cannon Mills, so that's the way I heard of it.

Okay, and did you in anyway participate in supporting that rally?

Uh, I passed out some leaflets in Charlotte for it, but I didn't, uh, really that was, that was, as far as I remember that was my main effort.

Okay, how about in Kannapolis at Cannon Mills, did you pass out leaflets there?

No, I was working there, I was a new worker there, I didn't think it would be too cool to be right out there . . .

Okay, other than, uh, in the communities in Charlotte, did you ever come to Greensboro and do any passing out of leaflets or speaking to people?

I passed out a lot of leaflets in Greensboro, uh, because we had a, but, uh, not for, I don't believe I passed out any leaflets for the November 3 demonstration in Greensboro. I think the only place I passed them out was Charlotte as my memory, I passed out a lot of leaflets in Greensboro in the past because we had a weekly or almost weekly White Oak Organizing Committee, uh, newsletter that we passed out weekly at the plant.

Okay, so after you moved to Kannapolis, then you don't recall comin' back up here to work on particularly anything to do with the, uh, uh, their demonstration?

No, I don't remember anything.

Okay, uh, before we continue then onto just prior to November 3, do you have any questions [redacted] about . . .

(Unintelligible)

. . . China Grove or

Yeah. I, I'll have a general, uh, [redacted] in, in 1979 were you a member of the Workers Viewpoint Organization? (Pause) You have to answer orally.

Oh. I'm sorry. I was not then and am not now.

Uh, in, on China, on China Grove . . .

(Beeping noise from tape recorder)

(Unintelligible mumbling) (Someone says, "Okay")

[redacted]  
Uh hmm.

As to uh, as to China Grove, did I understand correctly that you were only there for the rally on the 8th of July, you did not go there beforehand.

That's right, that's right.

That's all I have

Gene?

No.

Okay. [redacted] we're going to uh, continue on now until the period of November 3, 1979. When did you come to Greensboro to attend that rally?

Uh, Friday night. November 2nd.

Okay and when you came to Greensboro, where did you go?

I'm not sure where. Uh, I believe I went to uh, [redacted] (Phonetic) home because I was friends with them and [redacted] worked at the same mill with me, and I, they had a small child, so did I, so (unintelligible) small child anyway. Yeah. That's where I was comfortable with a small child, (unintelligible)

Did you spend the night there with them?

I spent the night there, yeah.

Okay. Did there come a time on that evening when you went to Jim Walla's house at all?

Yeah. Uh hmmm.

Okay.

I was at a, they were holding a planning meeting uh, for, before the demonstration. And I really didn't have any vote. I was um, I came in to see if there was anything I could help with, you know, because I knew the meeting, uh, I was asked to come to uh, help plan for the session the next day. The only thing I can recall being involved in was the discussion of what songs and chants we would sing, you know. So that was, that was all. I wasn't there that long.

Was there any discussion about this uh, meeting that you attended that evening, that the klan might come and kinda demonstrate against the,

Well, that was one of my questions. I asked uh, I don't know exactly who I asked, but uh, June or uh, you know, several people are gonna come from out of town, I didn't know what had been discussed, you know, as far as that was concerned. But the reas, you know, I got a very definite response that we did not expect the klan to come. I was relieved to hear that and so if anything, it would be the kind of, the only thing, you know, we don't even expect this, but because they said they weren't gonna, you know, attend. I don't know why we believed 'em, but uh, you know, they, they had said through the, the media, I read the newspaper, that they wouldn't touch that with a ten foot pole or somethin' like that and uh, it was really, I believe that the people

who were organizing them, I sincerely believe there was not going to be any klan interference. He said possibly some kind of um, maybe some uh, arrests uh, you know, possibly, you know, something involved like uh, something disorderly conduct or something, you know, it was considered the worst that was gonna happen and I, I mean not that anybody was, I didn't hear any plans for any disorderly conduct, but I just thought that maybe, because there'd been a lot of hassle around the (unintelligible) he said, and I didn't feel that included me, so I wasn't real concerned about me, but I was very worried about uh, even though people, you know, said they did not expect it, I was very concerned whether there would be any kind of uh, attack I guess, on us.

Okay. Tell us about the events of November 3rd, now on that morning, what occurred that morning.

Well, with me you mean. Uh, I uh, have the facts I had small child, she was uh, 16 months old at the time and I took her, her and I believe I took uh, [redacted] daughter and another child, I don't remember who, to the babysitter by myself, and uh, I arrived at the demonstration about eleven o'clock which was I think, the time that they were plannin' to start.

Okay. So there might have been, the period of time that you took the, your children and other people's children to the babysitter, you did not help do anything else that morning?

No, only thing I did was,

Okay, and when you arrived at the uh, Everett and uh, Carver Street location, what was taking place?

Uh, the, there, people were standing on the sidewalk singing songs like "We Shall Overcome" (unintelligible) I guess or "We Shall Overcome" I think, I'm not sure. And uh, there was a police car there when I drove up, uh, at least one uh, you know uh, there were a lot of people from it looked, appeared like they were from a one-side community, standing around uh, interestedly watching.

(Someone, unintelligible)

There was, you know, quite a bit of activity in the street, between people in the community and, and demonstrators uh, coming together there, uh, but it was quite uh, you know, some people were busily getting I think a sound truck ready and, most people were standing there singing, that's what I remember.

Okay. And did you see Sandra S-S-S Sandra Smith there?

Uh hmm. Yeah.

Okay. Did you speak with her?

Yeah.

Okay. And uh, who else did you see there that you recognized?

Well, my husband was there and uh, he had not stayed in Greensboro the night before. I stayed there because I didn't want to be traveling with my little girl uh, I wanted here safely at the babysitter well before I was supposed to begin, just, just, . . . caution I wanted to take and uh, so he had driven out that morning and I saw him. I saw Bill Sampson, [redacted]  
[redacted]

Okay. Did there come a time that morning when you became aware of the fact that a caravan of vehicles was uh, coming into the area?

Uh hmm.

Okay. Tell us what happened then.

I heard uh, some young, I think some young black people from the community saying, "It's the klan," or "The klan's coming" or somp'in like that and um, I looked up and I saw a caravan of cars coming up the street slowly.

Describe for us where you were at that time, now if you make reference to the ch, chalkboard across the table here, uh, you'll see that Everett Street is moving in a westly, uh, east and west direction and Carver Drive is north and south

Okay.

and the Community Center and you'll see the uh, sidewalk area and the entrance to the Community Center.

Okay. I was right, either on or right, probly on the sidewalk in front of the Community Center, uh, no too far, . . .

That would . . .

from the corner of Carver and Everett.

Okay. So you'd be on actually Everett Street then. (Unintelligible)

Yes I was on Everett Street.

Okay, fine. And tell us what you observed.

Well, the uh, caravan of cars came through um, I noticed each car was full of people, more than just one person per car, all full, and uh, they were throwing, they were kind of throwing insults, and they were saying stuff like, ni, I thought they were saying things like "niggers" and stuff like that, you know, and they were kinda heckling, you know, and uh, then also the people in the crowd were heckling back. Uh, and uh, the main thing I remember is that somewhere the lead car or the first or second one in that caravan appeared to stop further on up Carver, really uh, a half a block from where I was standing.

Okay, when you say up Carver, you referred to uh,

Oh, further going. . .

Everett Street. . .

West.

West of Everett Street.

Further west. It stopped and I, it looked like a younger man leaned out of the either the first or second vehicle and he said "You goddamn niggers and jews." And I thought very clearly and that's what I remember anyway. And he fired a gun and, and either fired once or twice. He at least fired once.

b6  
b7C

Where were you at that particular time?

Still standin' right there on that, near the corner.

Near the corner.

(unintelligible)

You're talkin' about this corner here.

Right

Where the singers were and,

Yeah. I was on the periphery of the singers.

Okay, now go ahead.

Um, I, I, I was just looking, I was tryin', I was looking down there and I started looking to the right and I think there had been some children right there. And I saw um, you know, I've uh, I's tryin' to fi, if that's were they gonna just shoot in the air, you know, what. And I was tryin' to see, you know, I, that was my main thing, I was tryin' to see what, what was he doin', you know. I could see him shoot in the air at first, but I wanted to see what was gonna happen next. And I was lookin' around to see where these children were going and I was happy to see that several adults and Sandy Smith (unintelligible) and um, one, uh, looked like one of the mothers at least, with the children, uh, was getting, quickly hearing the children down into Ca, away from the corner, down into Carver Street. And they looked like, and I, they looked like they were takin' care of that pretty well. So I decided not to go with them and to see what was going on a little more.

Okay, tell us what happened next.

I just kept looking down and tryin' to see more, I just felt a general sense of frustration. I couldn't see what was going on and I was scared, and apparently behind me, though I never saw it was uh, some kind of fight goin' on behind me. I found out later that was goin' on. I didn't see a bit of that and I guess it was a very good diversion as far as me, you know, but I did not see the fight go on and apparently, it was right behind me. I wasn't struck in any way.

Um, it seemed like and I, I don't know if the shots continued, I don't know if there was a interval between uh, shots up there for this guy said that. I really thought if there was any danger it was up at the end of the street. And I still ho, my view, I was at a distance, still pretty good distance from, and suddenly uh, well, then I was aware of a lot of activity behind me. And I turned, just turned around this way face uh, . . .

(Talking over Butler) You (unintelligible) Carver Street.

Back up Everett Street this way, and I saw several men gettin' out of cars, some were already out and holding weapons in their hands. And I was really shocked, you know. At first I thought I had my little girl with me, so I stood there real confu, uh, where is she, you know, and I was thinkin' a lot about that and realized she wasn't there and I was sayin' (unintelligible) but it just seemed like it took me a long time to remember to realize, get oriented that uh, of what was happening. They's uh, I thought I saw, you know, semi-automatic weapons. I don't know. I, I, I don't know what I saw, but I saw some weapons and I, I don't even know if they had commenced firing at that point. But I was, I was stayin' there pretty much, tryin' to figure out what was goin' on. Sandy Smith came up and grabbed my hand and she said "Come on," you know, pulled me behind this Community Center and she seemed to know exactly where she wa, you know, where was a good place to get behind and she pulled us behind this wall, that is uh, where that indents right there.

Okay.

As I was goin' around the corner, there was a shot, uh, it was a spray all around me in the gravel and um, it, I was hit by it, and I didn't know that until the next day, and uh, 'cause I didn't take off my clothes 'til the next day and see that I had blood and shot in me up here on my legs. So right as I was turning that corner, I was hit, anyway it sort peened around the gravel around me. And uh, wh, uh, we were behind the wall and uh, I looked out to see, I don't know if Sandy looked out or not, but I loo, at first, I looked

b6  
b7C



out to see, I could hear shots, and I looked out to see if there was anyone being hurt, you know, if there was, if there were any, you know, people just out there. I was pretty sure that the kids had all been taken care of at that point, and uh, I saw those guys, sta, you know, (unintelligible) I, I really could only see o, at, from that vantage point, could only see one or at least was only aware of seeing one of the uh, men with the guns, and he was just shootin' away. And he seemed to be down uh, I can't tell you exactly where he was, but he seemed to be in the vicinity of those two parked cars on Carver Street.

b6  
b7C

You referring to Everett Street now, the east part of Everett Street?

No, Carver.

These two cars here.

I think there was one of these men down, had come down into Carver Street. Yeah. On the other side of those cars and uh, really on the other side of the car for me. And uh, I, you know, like I'm, I'm real unsure of the time sequence, but I think that Bill wa, Sampson was behind that second car, very close to us. And uh, he was being shot at and he was returning the shots. And I uh, I had, I did have my gun on me 'cause I didn't know what would come up that day. Mostly I thought I was gonna be too involved of any trouble. So I debated whether I should uh, get into the gun fire, I was afraid of drawing fire. But as this guy, as I was looking but this guy wheeled and just faced right where I was and I thought he saw me, you know, and I thought and he, I thought he shot. So I pulled back and uh, I sh, I leaned out and quickly shot and pulled back, but I wasn't, I think it was just once. Now we was just (unintelligible) two, but I, I don't know I thought it was only one. And the reason why I wasn't any more was uh, San, I, I pulled out and I said, "Sandy, don't look out." I said, "This is a guy right on us." He, you know, I, he appeared to be coming just right down into this Carver Street. And uh, I had, you couldn't run even further, because I would have been more exposed and I really felt we were cornered into that corner right there. And uh, she leaned out

even though I said, "Don't lean out," you know, and I was just, you know, waiting in case he came around the corner I would guess I would try and shoot him, but, 'cause I was sure he was comin' after us, and uh, she leaned out and she got hit right between the eyes, on her head. So that was that. I, I, uh, eh, the feeling at the moment was, you know, I didn't realize anybody else had been really hit, well, a moment later or right about the same time, Bi, I heard Bill say, "I've been hit." I heard him say, "I've been shot" or somp'in like that, and he was on the ground. And I just thought everything was coming apart and I didn't know if this guy was gonna kill me next, and I didn't feel like I'd do anything about it, so I kinda just stood there and held, and was calling for a doctor. Because I was aware that we had some doctors near, and I didn't know why no doctors were coming when I was yelling. I had really realized the widespread (fades out).

Okay, [ ] did you know [ ]

No, not at all.

Uh, do you recall when you were looking out from the side of that wall there, uh, seeing a man in a blue jacket with a dark beard, sort of a white hat, standing near that channel 12 vehicle?

No, I don't.

Okay. Do you recall afterwards when you came out from that wall, seeing a man laying in the street there?

No, I don't remember that.

Okay. Tell us what happened after Sandy was struck in the head with a pellet.

Uh, for quite some period of time, I, again, my sense of time was very warped, I have to admit. I really thought the shootings took about 20 minutes. You know, that was my perception. I thought I was in the middle of a battle, ha, just like I thought, this is vietna, like vietnam, you know, I'm in a battle. And uh, I thought the whole thing took 20 minutes. Apparently, it only took a couple of minutes.

[REDACTED]

And then I stayed with her, I didn't know, I, I was just cursing myself 'cause I didn't know anything about um, CPR, you know, basic resuscitation techniques and I was trying to get her comfortable and stretched out. I really thought she was still alive. I thought there was hope, you know, and I was feeling for a pulse and trying to figure out what I could do to help her and I was calling, was repeatedly calling for a doctor assistance, call the ambulance, things like that I was sayin'. No one was com, I, I didn't really understand 'cause no one was coming to my assistance. I just expected some of the people to be rushing over 'cause the firing had stopped and there was no one coming, you know, and um, then uh, the rescue squad eventually came. So I was uh, and I was, oh at the same time I was sort of holding Sandy's head and I could see Bill and I could see, uh, uh, [REDACTED] you know, holding his head and somebody giving him uh, assistance and I knew Bill was in very serious condition and uh, I didn't. I really had no idea, I knew that uh, uh, [REDACTED] was a doctor. That's about the only thing I knew about him and I was looking for him really, for assistance. I didn't know where he was. I didn't know he'd been shot. But, I was just with her for a long time, you know, I couldn't see much from where I was because uh, I was kinda back in a corner there. Wh, what I could see, I saw Jim Walla on the ground, you know, obviously really hurt. That's all I knew. And I could see Bill Sampson seriously hurt next to (unintelligible), and I couldn't see much beyond. I was frustrated, but I didn't wanta leave her. So I, I didn't see a lot.

[REDACTED]

Okay. You recall seeing [REDACTED] ?

No, I didn't see him.

Do you recall seeing Ceasar Corsay at all?

No. I think it's just the vantage point I have, those cars in between and just uh, being on the steps of that Community Center, I. ..

Okay. Did you recall seeing any other individual other than that one person that you believe was standing in the center of Carver Street, with a, is it a automatic type weapon, is that the word you used. . . .

I don't know, no, I wouldn't say that, because I don't know what he had, I mean, but it was really scary and it was just, I was looking down the barrel of a gun at one point and I don't know what kind of a gun it was, but it was not a revolver. It wasn't a little hand held gun, or at least. . .

Some type shoulder weapon. (unintelligible)

(Talking over [redacted]) It's not bigger than a pistol, that's all I know.

Somethin' like a, in the area of a shotgun or a, a rifle.

Could be, you know, it, it also didn't seem to be all that long, I don't know. I mean I know that sounds contradictory, but I don't, it coulda be a.. .

Have you seen (unintelligible) the T.V.

Uh hmm.

since the November 3rd incident.

Yes.

Does any of that refresh your memory at all when you see it?

Of this person?

Uh huh.

Unfor, no, it doesn't. Unfortunately not. See, I don't really see the person and I on, hey, I was not looking at the person as much as I was looking at his actions, you know, he was pointing at, my perception was he was pointing a gun, he had turned and pointed a gun, right in his fire I was, I thought he, I felt that he saw me, you know and I was gonna be his next target. So I woulda, you know, I didn't look at his face. He looked like a stocky person and he looked like a hunter to me. That's what he looked like, a hunter.

Do you recall anything about his clothing?

He was just like a hunter, I mean, I don't think he was, it coulda been a plaid jacket or something like that that made me think he looked like a hunter. But, you know, I can't be as specific as I like, you know, I just can't.

Well, do you recall, . . .

He didn't have long hair I don't think.

He did or didn't.

He did not have real long hair, but, like I said, some things he didn't have, you know, like that.

Okay. Tell us some of those.

Well uh, in looking at the video tapes, I was just tryin', it was kind of uh, tryin' to eliminate certain people. It wasn't the guy with the denim jacket and the long hair, 'cause this guy did not have a denim jacket and long hair. He was, like I said, I, I, he seemed to me stocky and like a big person.

Well, how 'bout a white sweater and a beard?

I don't think he had a white sweater. I don't know.

How 'bout a beard?

He cou, yeah, he could've. I uh, I thought he was like older than me too. I didn't think he looked really young. I mean at the time, I thought his gun looked like it was from outer space. It's just, it was really scary looking and I don't know what kind of gun he had.

You really don't.

You say that he was up in this area on Carver Street, could he have been back on the ground, so. . .

Yeah, he could've. Yeah. What I meant was he had come oh, he had come down in between the uh, uh, into the. . .

Is what your sayin' in that he had come  
away from. . .

(unintelligible) the intersection.

Right.

Okay.

That's right.

Do you remember if he was in the street or on  
the grounds or where he was?

N- no, I, I really couldn't say which of the  
two he was.

So what you recall is that he was north of  
Everett Street.

That's right.

Remember this pickup truck that was parked in  
that intersection?

No I don't. I didn't know that inter, that,  
I didn't know the intersection was blocked.

From where you were, could you see the uh, the  
uh, Fairlane and the van?

No.

You did not see those.

No.

So, you couldn't see any of the people but, ..

I mean maybe I could, but I didn't see it. All  
I focused on was, and, and, you know, I looked  
out once or twice, you know, I was tryin, I was,  
my primary interest was gettin' shelter, and I  
looked out and see, saw this guy. I thought  
he was down in, you know, a pit, he was moving.  
He was standing there very aggressively just,  
it looked like he, he was coming next behind  
there.

You say you thought he fired at you.

b6  
b7C

Yes, I did think that.

And that was before you fired at him.

I think so, yeah. I think he may have, he may have been the one, someone fired at me as I was goin' around the corner.

That's a different shot than the one you described be- . . .

Yes. 'Cause I didn't see. I didn't have any idea where that came from.

See, you were shot at and felt this spray on your legs as you were goin' around the corner.

Uh hmm.

And after being back there for some time, looked out and saw this man.

Right. And he turned.

And he turned.

And faced me. .

Faced you.

Pointing the gun at me.

Okay. And at that point, you thought he shot the weapon.

I thought so.

What made you think that he fired the weapon?

Just the menacing I guess, just, just the whole feeling, I mean, I don't know, I, I don't know that for sure.

Well, did you recall hearing uh, any pellets hit the building or glass. . .

No, no.

behind you.

No, I don't recall that.

b6  
b7C

In other words, you were up, you were up here, . . .

There was a lot of gun fire, I mean, it was in the it was in the middle of gun fire and I couldn't really tell if it was his gun or not. There was a gun fire and he was pointing in our direction.

Yeah. You know those windows that were right up in the back part of this. . .

Uh hmm.

You remember, do you remember hearing those break at any time?

No. Well, were they broken. No, I don't know. There was just a lot of gun fire.

It might help now if you'd talk a little bit about the shot that hit you and the size.

Okay. Um, well, it went, I had jeans on and it went through my jeans. I had several pieces of shot embedded in my skin, with this blood, you know, but none of 'em were deep as far as I know and I didn't seek any medical assistance 'til about two days later. I was just really didn't wanta draw attention to myself.

b6  
b7C

Then whenever you sought medical attention, did they remove any of those pellets (unintelligible)?

Yeah. They removed them all.

Do you know who has them now?

I guess they threw 'em in the trash, I don't know. I didn't, I didn't s-, you know, I, I just was afraid of losing my job and things like that. I, I never did get fired from anywhere and I did not wanna lose my job and I didn't wanta draw attention to myself, you know, people have been killed and I, I couldn't see making a big deal over my little shot and my, my husband and uh, the doctor who removed it said it was buckshot. And it was about the size of a pencil. It was about the cross-section of a pencil or a pen, it was that size.

Talkin' about the core of the pen here?



No, talkin' about the cross-section.

What are you talkin'. . .

I'm talking about about three quarters, and you know, half an inch, . . .

About the size of the end of my finger?

Yeah. la-, yeah and a little larger.

(Unintelligible, at same time as )

No.

Larger than that.

Larger than that.

The size of a. . .

Take a number two pencil, cut it in half right in the middle and that,

Includin' the pencil part, not, not at the (unintelligible) part.

Yeah. Between a quarter of an inch and a half an inch.

Alright, how many of these pellets did you have in you?

I think six, I counted one time, but I'm not sure. I can't say six for sure, but I think I'm safe to say six.

Trying to say approximately the size of a pencil eraser

Yes, pencil eraser top.

(unintelligible) wooden pencil.

Unused pencil eraser top.

And you has six of those whereabouts on your body.

Uh, from my upper thighs down to my ankles.

And how did they remove these, su, surgically, they did?

The doctor removed them. They were all on the surface of my skin and he moved them, I don't remember. It was in the emergency room.

In what hospital?

In Charlotte, and um, I don't remember the name of the hospital.

Just a hospital in Charlotte (cuts off, end of tape)

This is a continuation of the interview of [redacted] [redacted] uh, when you were treated at the hospital in Charlotte, North Carolina, um, did it re-, reflect on the medical report that you were treated for gunshot wounds?

Yes. I told the doctor it was gunshot wounds.

Okay. And to your knowledge, did he uh, did the doctor keep those pellets that were taken from you body?

I have no idea. I uh, . . .

And this was approximately what date?

This was November 5th or 6th, probly 6th.

And I believe you'd indicated that your daughter was treated.

Yeah. My daughter was treated the same time. She uh, you know, I'm not even sure, I think it was the first, within Mo-, between Monday and Wednesday after the Saturday of November 3rd, but it even could have been a little longer, I'm not sure. But they were still in when, when he took them. I was primarily taking her to, my daughter to get uh, she had stepped on a radiator and bur-, slightly burned the bottom of her feet so I had taken her and I asked the doctor to look at it and, and see if anything needed to be treated and he said, Well, there was the danger of blood poisoning and I oughta get a antibiotic on it and he would remove them.

Okay you know, did they take x-rays of it?

No.

Okay.

And I think that was, you gave them a different name.

Yeah. I was really afraid I was gonna lose my job and I knew that uh, I had heard that people were losing their job, demonstrators were losing their jobs, simply from going to the emergency room. So that's why I didn't go to the emergency room, I just didn't, some people urged me to go to the emergency room and I said, "No, it's not worth it to me if my name gets printed up in the paper and I lose my job." So, I, what I did was I gave them a, I think I gave 'em my real first name and I gave 'em, I think my maiden name or I'm not sure what I did exactly. And then I paid 'em on the spot.

Okay. Give us the. . .

I gave Richmond as my address though.

Okay. gave, give us the maiden name that you gave,

[redacted] I might have said [redacted] I might have even said [redacted] my daughter's name. I'm not sure.

Your daughter's name is what?

[redacted]

[redacted]

Uh, could you spell it for us.

[redacted] lik [redacted]

You may have given that as your last name.

No, I may have, well, she and I were both treated at the same time by the same doctor.

In the same emergency room.

Same emergency room.

So, what emergency room were you treated at.

(At same time) So, if you wanted to look at the records, that's, I'm just not sure of the last name I gave them. I didn't give them [redacted]

When, when you took your daughter in, did, did, what name for her did you give them.

That's what I'm not sure of either.

You probly, did you probly use her first name.

I'm sure I used the same last name for her.  
For both of us.

It makes some sense.

There was. . .

But you probly used her real first name.

Yes.

Is that what you're sayin?

I think I did.

Okay. Um.

And I gave Richmond, Virginia, as my address.

Okay.

Do you recall the address of the hospital that you went to. Whereabouts in Charlotte. . . . Or the general location.

Yeah, it's in north, the northern part of Charlotte.  
It's um. .

Is it off by 85?

Not right off the interstate, I don't think.

29? Highway 29?

It's on a road that, you know, it's on a regular city street. It's in the, I could pro-, probly my husband can recall.

Okay.

I can find that out. I even have a city map of Charlotte.

You even have what?

A city map of Charlotte and I could find that out.

I think also you'd mentioned to me that one of the pellets was near the surface and you scraped it off yourself.

Uh hmm.

When was that?

When I first uh, saw it. I kinda picked at it to see if, how deeply embedded it was. One came right off.

And was that November the 4th when you first discovered.

Yeah, yeah.

And did you see that then, actually see the pellet?

Yes. It was flat and it was uh, you know, it stuck to my skin and it was flat, it was almost like uh, blood around it.

Was it about the same size as you described previously?

b6  
b7c

Yeah. I think they were all, I, only one I, you know, I only remember that one size vividly, but I don't re-, that's the largest, what I'd said, but there may have been some smaller ones.

Okay. And you were struck whereabouts on your body again.

Upper legs and lower legs.

On which side.

Back.

Like. .

Exterior.

entire back.

Yeah.

So, both sides of both legs were covered.

Posterior portion of my (unintelligible) and uh, it should be (unintelligible).

Okay. Alrighty.

(Unintelligible)

Do you have any, do you have any (unintelligible).

That's the bone, that's the bone there (unintelligible)  
(laughs).

(Someone unintelligible)

That was the wrong, that's the bone. (Laughs)

That's right.

I was gonna say, you were un-, unusually [redacted]. .

That's on my bone.

And usually [redacted] help, but (unintelligible)

(Laughing)

I'd be in bad trouble (unintelligible) you know,  
wherever the, the skin on the surface of this  
bone.

The hamstring muscles and the calf muscles.

Calf and, calf and upper, what's that, upper thighs.

Hamstring. Hamstring is the back of

Yeah.

of the upper leg. Back of the upper leg.  
Right outside the femur.

Right.

Hey, we're gonna take a break for a minute and  
then we're gonna look at some films for a few  
minutes, and

Can I ask a couple questions?

You wanna? Yeah, sure.

Thank-you.

About medicine or about (unintelligible)

(Someone laughing)

I don't know anything about medicine.

Well, one more about medicine. Did you get any kinda receipt from the hospital?

I'm sure I did, but I didn't save it. I (unintelligible)

Uuumm. How 'bout prescriptions?

Yes. Well, he gave it to me. He just gave me, he gave me a prescription drug.

Okay. So you didn't, nothin' you had to fill.

That's right.

Nothin' with your name or the name of your doctor.

Right, it was a (unintelligible)

Uh, I'm lookin' for somethin' that might reflect, that what we're interested in, obviously is subpoenaed records.

Right.

And the only way to do that, it would be helpful to know the precise name and the precise hospital.

I can get the, I'll figure out where the hospital was, uh, it was just a young doctor. I uh, don't know who the doctor was.

The doctor probably wouldn't help us uh.

It would have to be emergency room records

Right.

or somethin'.

Yeah. So we'd, if we found the hospital's name and knew what name you used at that time, then we can get the records and the records are likely to reflect the (unintelligible) in preference and size. If he made them. Sometimes they do and sometimes they don't.

One other question on the nature of the injury, did you uh, advise them that you were at that demonstration on November 3rd?

b6  
b7C

No, I didn't.

What did you explain to the doctor as far as the cause of your injury?

He said, "How did you get this?" and I said, "Well, just got in the way when somebody was shootin' a shotgun. It was an accident." I said.

Got in the way of what now?

Somebody's shooting a, a shotgun. And he said uh, he said this is buckshot and I said, yeah I know. Uh, I got in the way of somebody shootin' and he said were they shootin' at you? And I said oh no, no. It was just an accident. Uh, you know, I was standin' too close as a little kid, I said. I just really didn't want to draw attention to myself. I really felt that the atmosphere at the time, if I came in there and said that pretty soon I'd have a reporter callin' me up. Just didn't want any attention, that's all. I wanted to keep my job above all else. Not above all else, but I had a pretty high (unintelligible).

b6  
b7C

Um, okay. You said that, that uh, when you were standin' on that corner, you heard this man in the pickup truck say something and then shaw, saw him shoot a weapon into the air and that you basically stayed with your tension focused on him.

Right, uh hmm.

How many times do you recall him shooting?

More than once, but I don't know how many times?

Were they all up in the air?

I couldn't see that he was, I, I, I didn't have any evidence he was shooting anywhere but up in the air, but I was, that's what I was trying to see. I was tryin' to see how serious was this and I couldn't tell.

But you were aware of uh, him firing more than one shot.

Yeah, yeah.

Okay. And uh, how were you dressed that day?



I had uh, blue jeans and a red nylon jacket on.  
And tennis shoes.

Now, when, when uh, you first became aware of  
Sandy Smith tellin' you to move,

Uh hmm.

Uh, did she go with you to that porch?

Yes, she was literally kinda pulling me behind.  
I wasn't quite sure that was the best place to  
go, but she was doin' a much better job than  
I was doin' gettin' sel-, shelter for me. So  
I went with her behind her.

So you ran,

Right there.

You ran north on Carver Street.

Right

On the grass.

Yeah.

Right?

I was right behind her. She was holding my  
hand uh, pulling, you know, guiding me. I didn't  
know where she was going. She was pulling me  
to some safety is what she was,

Did you see if she was injured in any way at that  
time?

No. I, I, we had, I was, was surprised to find  
out that she was, you know, I heard she was  
seriously injured, that's what uh, I was told  
and she uh, you know, she was more looser than  
I was about it. I was still standing in a daze  
in the street, tryin' to figure out what was  
goin' on.

You learned that she was, or that she was seriously  
injured by other than the gunshot.

Yeah, I heard she was, smashed in the back of the  
head. And in fact, I held her head when I, what  
I thought was uh, that the bullet had gone, when the,  
I thought it was a bullet and uh, I thought it  
went into her head, forehead, and I put my hand  
over it to try and prevent blood loss, you know,

and uh, I felt, I was holding my other hand on the back of her head and I felt, you know, blood and everything back there and I thought it went through her head. That's what I thought. 'Cause I didn't realize before that she had been injured any other way. So I, you know, my perception was that a bullet had just gone through her forehead to the back, out the back of her head, and I was, you know, holding her head. But she was talking to me, you know, she was saying you stay down while, when I look, when she looked out and I said, no don't do it, you know, there's somebody right there on us. And she said, and she said no, you stay back, you know, like that. And she looked out and that's when she got hit.

Did she have a weapon?

No, she didn't have one.

When you were, before you started runnin' up here,

Uh hmm.

How many shots did you recall hearing?

I don't know. They had, they had the gun, I'm quite sure, because I had, I was running under gunfire. That was my, that was the experience I was having. I was running under gunfire and away from, tryin' to get away from it.

Could you tell what direction they were coming from as you were. . .

Yeah. It was to the right of me. It was uh, I had seen him, you know, I had already seen these guys getting, getting their guns out of the car in the process of setting up basically, you know, getting out their, pulling out their weapons. I was seeing that as she came up and grabbed me. So I knew where it was coming from.

Well, did you hear any of those shots hitting anywhere as you were running.

Yeah, it's uh, I, I think it was sort of pinging all around me. That's what I thought. That was my sense at the time. And I saw a newspaper reporter or, I mean a, not, not, you know, photographer, somebody with the media. A woman jump in her car, I saw, you know, everybody was scrambling for just a place to get behind something.

Where did you see her jump in her car?

One of these first two cars, right.

A car parked here.

Yeah. Right, as I was goin' up there, Sandy grabbed me, so okay, if you need a time from her. She was doing that as I was running up behind the Community Center.

She meaning (unintelligible, [redacted] interrupts)

That gir-, the media person. She wa-, jumped under one of the two cars. I think the first one.

Okay. As you ran up the street and you saw her jump under the car, did you see other people crouching behind that car?

I think so, but I'm not sure who, you know. I know that Bill Sampson was there, but I only am sure it was, only, I'm only sure I knew that at the point I was already behind the building.

So you don't recall seeing Bill Sampson there when you ran by?

No, right. But there were several people and I think there was some other media people like uh, like uh, T.V. station camera men or somebody. There was several people in that area trying to seek cover at that point.

Okay. Uh, and when you got up on the porch and you looked out and you saw this man, had, had you been aware of Bill Sampson firing the weapon before that?

I don't know if it was already. I tend to think not, but I'm not sure. I don't, I don't think I was running up there when he, I think I would have remembered that if he was shooting as I was running up there. I think he, began shooting afterwards, but I'm not sure.

Did he shoot before you did?

Oh, . . it was very, it was, my response was to this one guy, you know. I know that Bill was shot very close to the same time Sandy was. That's the only thing I was sure of.

Okay.

I was, I felt this guy had zeroed in on us, and I felt, and I was naturally having to respond to that.

Well, before you said that you were concerned about shooting if you were concerned about drawing fire . . .

Right.

and I thought you had said that Bill was already firing. Is that accurate or not?

He could have been, but I don't know for sure. I'll have to admit that.

Do you have any idea how many times he fired?

No I don't. More than once.

Umm.

From memory I don't know.

You say that Bill and Sandy were shot around the same time.

Yes.

Why do you think that?

Because um, when Sandy was hit, either right before Sandy was hit or very soon after, I heard uh, Bill say I've been shot. And I knew because he said it, you know. He said, I've been shot. like that, and I saw him fall to the ground. And I was, as soon as Sandy was hit, I, you know, um, I was, put my arms around her tryin' to pull her back, you know, and um, I could see, because I had to move out a little bit, I could see Bill then on the ground. It seemed like it was in rapid succession, and I don't know exactly which, which, which first. Seemed like it was happening at the same time.

Okay, now with reference to your weapon,

Uh hmm.

You said that you recall firing at least once and may have fired twice.

I could have [redacted] I really only thought that I fired once. But [redacted] (?) with me that he had another account unaccounted for shot and I, I had told him earlier that I shot once. But there really wasn't much time for me to shoot because, that's what I can't quite figure out was that, I, it could have been me, but I'm not sure.

Well, let me ask this. Your weapon is a revolver, right?

Right.

Okay, how many shots is it?

Six.

Did you, had you loaded it fully that morning?

Yeah, it was all full, but I onl-, I thought I only shot once.

Did you recall uh, taking the (?) shell out?

Uh hmm. Yeah.

Do you recall there being more than one?

I really thought I only shot once, you know, but, I, I'm I can't, you know, if, if there's, I mean, it's possible for me to have shot twice, right then.

But you don't recall

I really. .

based on the recollection of what happened that day or the recollection of reloading the weapon later, you don't recall whether it was only once or maybe more.

Well, that's what, I have uh, thought my memory was pretty consistent up until he raised the really, wh-, the really, you know, that the FBI determined there were eight shots from the community center and of course, you know, I know that, that a revolver can only hold six, so I know no other guns or anybody else was shooting besides Bill with Bill's weapon, which would be six, and if there were two more, I I can't have no, I can't imagine where that other, another one would have come from I mean, so then I said, well maybe I shot twice, but I always thought I only shot once.

When did you unload your weapon after the firing incident?

Couple hours later.

And do you recall where you were?

I was in a car, my car.

Your car?

Uh hmm.

Was your husband driving?

No. I had taken my, we have, we had two hicles, vehicles. He had a truck and I had a car.

Were you driving the vehicle?

Yeah.

And you unloaded the weapon while you were driving?

No, no. I got in, I, I drove a little ways and then I took 'em out.

Okay. And what did you do with the cartridges, the casings?

I don't know. I didn't keep them. I didn't keep them.

Could they still be in the vehicle?

No, I wouldn't have done that. I cleaned the car, I uh, cleaned the car and sold the car. Yeah.

They wouldn't be in the seat by chance.

No I wou-, no, no, no. No, I, I um, I didn't save 'em, but I wouldn't have been careless with, you know, I wouldn't have just put 'em somewhere you know. I wouldn't just throw 'em somewhere, I would have kept 'em and then, then. Then I thought then I no longer were sure if that came from the (unintelligible).

Do you have any recollection of saving the bullets that were not fired? And you know, you replaced them or what?

Uh, yes I did, uh, I keep the same bullets in the weapon for awhile. I was really scared for my life. And I, I c- continued to be armed to protect myself.

Okay, well just think back then as to what, what bullets you saved and how many you put in the gun to reload it again. Do you recall how many you took out of the box to reload it?

Oh, uh, tha-, I know what you're gettin' at, but I don't know if I did, if I had shot once or twice, I really don't know, and I don't know if I'm, I mean if I remembered that I only took four bullets out, then I would have known that I shot twice. I really thought I only shot once and I still tend to think that, but the evidence seems to be that I cou-, you know, could have shot twice.

Well, right now we just have to go with your recollection.

Yeah.

We're just trying to pursue a number of ways to determine.

Okay.

Uh, ha-, have you had any occasion to fire that weapon since then?

I practiced shot it. Yeah uh, from, for about a year afterwards. I eh, uh, probly about once a month. Uh, just target, you know,

So I assume that you don't have any of the same ammunition.

It's been, it's been shot.

I assume you don't have any of the same ammunition that you had in November, '79.

I might, 'cause I ha-, I didn't shoot all that much, you know, I o-, I, I probly didn't if I shot. I don't know how much is in a box, but, it's expensive to practice (unintelligible) you know, I probly uh, probly had shot it no more than 10 times each time I did it. I probly don't have. But anyway, I haven't shot it for about a year now. I don't think I have any of the same. I also don't know whether it was uh, .38 or .357 that I shot that day.

And your gun is a .357.

Yeah, but you can shoot either one.

Yeah.

Yeah.

And I think you mentioned, maybe this will help you think, when you leaned around and shot, the petition or manner in which you shot, whether or not you cocked it and then pulled the trigger or,

Yeah. This is why I find it hard to believe I could shoot twice, uh because uh, I had been, my husband had showed me how the shoot the gun and he, you know, told me to cock it back, in order to, 'cause uh, you know, you would have more control over it, you wouldn't have to pull as hard on the trigger, and I didn't and I remember 'just goin' wow, you know, I knew that, you know, was, yeah, I, I just didn't even remember that, you know, when I sh, when I pulled it, I knew I was shooting just off into anywhere, but uh, so I didn't cock it back, I just pulled the trigger. That's why I find it hard to believe I did two in a row. 'Cause I wou-, it wou-, there would have been too much time ela- elapsed. This was very quick, you know, leaning out, seeing the guy, leaning right back out and getting a shot off and ru- and hiding back in and that's, that was my memory.

Okay. Where you shootin' at the fellow that was standing in the middle of Carver Street with the weapon?

Yeah, he was coming. Uh, my uh, perception, he was coming right at us.

Do you recall what was behind him. Was it a building or open space?

I think uh, some open space. Uh hmm.

Okay.

O- One, one question. Could the man you looked out and saw stalking towards you, could he have been to the left of the channel 12 car and that other car in that grassy area, could it, could it have been somebody in there?



I don't, no, I don't think so, because um, Bill was down there. The whole time I was behind that Bill was there and nobody was right on top of Bill, I don't think.

And when you saw Bill, what position was he in? Was he standing upright, or was he crouched behind the vehicle?

No. He was crouched behind the vehicle and mostly I saw him on the ground 'cause um, I (unintelligible)

Okay. And do you recall seeing him stand up at any time?

No, huh hmm.

You, and even though you were back in a corner here, could you still see him fairly clearly from the corner you were in?

Well, I only took uh, one or two brief looks outside uh, from behind that wall. After seein' he was shot, I had a good view, because uh, I was not I don't know this, that this firing ceased, I think soon after that, and uh, I wasn't prote-, I wasn't hiding behind the wall after she shot, I was halfway behind it. And I could see they were on the ground really, you know, seriously injured, so that's the main time I saw Bill, but I did see him crouch behind the car.

When you heard his voice, do you know where it was that was coming from 'cause you said earlier, you had seen him fall.

Yeah. Well, when he s- said I've been hit,

Where was he then?

I heard him say, I've been hit, you know, he was right behind that car, and he fell onto the ground.

Was he standing at that time?

No, he was uh, down, he was down the whole time, crouched and I thought, I thought. I never saw him standing up.

What was your reaction to Sandy gettin' shot?

Well, I really only thought it was her and Bill. It was denial. I thought she was still alive and I thought she could be saved. And I was really upset that no doctor or rescue people, and I had seen the police there, as I said, I saw the police when I drove up. I was wondering where are they? They're trained, they're supposed to be trained to handle this kind of thing. I was re-, just repeatedly yelling over and over, you know uh, I need a doctor, I need help, you know, I was sayin' that over and over 'cause (clears throat) I knew there were doctors and police and I wanted to know where they were, you know. And I was very distraught I guess. Um, I was holding her head, I was tryin' to keep the blood in her head. I was tryin' to feel for a pulse and I just uh, there was uh, you know, I was just really, I guess I was distraught, I didn't leave, I didn't leave her, you know, I didn't know what to do for her. I wanted to do something for her and I couldn't do anything for her. And it was, it was a feeling of helplessness and (clears throat) just wishing I could do something, n-and wondering where the help was, where was the assistance. I was so angry and frustrated and upset. There was uh, a, a, there was a, a couple black couple standing behind us, I don't know what they saw, but their, they certainly saw her body or her after she was shot, shortly after, and they, the woman was crying and the man was holding, had his arms around her. They were young.

b6  
b7C

Were they there when the shooting was going on?

I don't know. I really don't. I mean, I wondered about that, but I don't know. I didn't see them then, but this was very shortly afterwards. I don't know what they saw, but they uh, the woman was very upset, kept looking at Sandy and burying her face in the man's chest crying. He was trying to console her and I was holding Sandy. So that, that seemed that was my main memory of that time. And it became clear to me that, that the shooting had stopped, you know, I didn't know where they were, but they were gone or something. And I saw Jim on the ground, I saw Jim Walla on the ground, on his, on his stomach. And I knew he was seriously injured, but that's all, and Bill laying, so I knew three people were, but I couldn't see anybody else.

Using the diagram, can you indicate what your line of sight and fire was when you looked around. Was it more straight across east?

No, diagonal, it was like um,  
Southeast.

Yeah. draw a uh,

Do you remember,

45 degree angle from tha-, that poi-, corner and  
that's where I, that would the center of my vision.

Something like this?

Yeah. That would be the center of my vision and  
I should see. . .

(beeping noise, end of tape 2, side 1)

You gonna put the continuation on here?

This is the same tape. Just turned it over.

Oh, alright. In order words uh, if you, if I recall  
correctly what you said before, this diagram does  
not, does not pretend to be the scale,

Uh hmm.

Uh, if I recall what you said before is that when  
you fired at this person, you thought that the back-  
ground behind him was open space as opposed to  
(unintelligible)

(Talking over  Oh yeah.

Is that correct.

Yeah.

Okay. So, he would have uh,

He wasn't in front of a house.

From your prospective, he would have been uh,  
in between the edge of this building here and,

And that car.

And, and this car.

No, this car up here.

Channel 12 vehicle.

Channel 12 car. He was somewhere in that, yeah.

Somewhere in there I thought. Or, I would make a circle if I was gonna describe it, you know, circle from here.

Right, somewhere in this area.

Well, he could have, no, he could have been in the street. I don't know.

She puts him anywhere from the grassy area to the street, right.

Yeah. Anywhere in that area.

Yeah.

And unlike the diagram, did you have to cut a close angle above the channel 12 car? Did you, were you fearful you would hit that car, or was that not even in your vision when you looked around? As I said, that car,

I didn't see,

that (unintelligible with [redacted] talking over him)

I don't remember the car bein' right in front of me. I, I don't remember that much obstruction.

It may not have been. This is just a rough approximation uh,

But I'm sure that the houses, the apartments weren't directly behind this guy.

(Someone unintelligible, one word)

I think I would have thought about that.

(Someone unintelligible)

(Someone coughs)

Okay.

Okay, that's all we have for right now. We'll take a short break and we'll show you some films on (unintelligible) okay.

And I was, you know, you know.

Okay, [redacted] we've been reviewing on the video screen, a channel 11 t.v. video film from November 3, 1979, and as you viewed in the t.v. screen, several vehicles have passed by and the film reflects an individual striking a vehicle with a stick. Did you observe that on November 3, 1979?

I might have uh, I mean, what I remember is several people hitting the side of the car. I don't remember people hitting the car with the sticks, I remember hitting with hands.

Okay.

Fists, you know.

These people were in front of you as you look up west on Everett Street, is that correct?

Uh, next to me, I was in,

Next to you.

I was several people around, I was, had people on both sides on me.

Okay, and again, what did you observe these people to do with their hands?

(Unintelligible) cars, but you know, generally get outta here.

Is that about the same time that you indicated earlier you heard people uh, exchanging some kind of curses comin' out of the vehicles and people shouting death to the klan?

Uh hmm, yes.

About that same period

Yes.

when people was saying Jews or, or niggers and things like that.

Right.

This is when the people started striking vehicles with your hands that you observed?

Yeah.

Okay.

This is what I saw is on Carver. The other heckle and the demonstrators, demonstrators were givin' it back.

Okay. We're gonna continue to watch the film and we'll stop it again in a few seconds. I want you to observe the uh, actions that are further west on Everett Street, where you indicated earlier you saw a man come out of the vehicle with a, a weapon and fire it once or possibly more.

Right.

Okay. And if you, the film actually shows this, I'd like you to describe it to us on the tape, what you observed that day.

Okay.

Okay. We've just reviewed a film on t.v. uh, channel 11, and it re-, shows a blue and white pickup truck passing by and an individual coming out of it holding a weapon in the air. Okay. Tell us what happened as you observed on November 3, 1979, when that occurred.

I observed the cars, se-, stopping, you know, up at the en-, you know, towards the end of the street, stop suddenly and uh, what I thought was the first or second vehicle, a man got out and he was just really, you know, uh, he was saying cursing, and calling people, you know, uh, uh, generally racial, you know. (Sigh) Uh, uh, what I remembered him saying was uh, "You goddamn niggers and Jews." That's what I remember and he shot in the air. That's what I saw, and I kept looking in that direction.

Okay. Did the film actually uh, show what occurred on that date other than the fact that you can't hear what the man is shouting.

The film seems so better what I saw. I mean, I it seemed like the cameramen, uh, probably it's my memory, you know, but, or fear, you know, it had it just changed, altered my ability to remember that, that (unintelligible). But the film uh, seems, uh, seemed like I couldn't see the man as well on the film, it shows. I don't recollect being able to see him that clearly. Maybe the cameraman was closer at that point.

b6  
b7C

Okay, fine.

than I was.

We're gonna continue watching the film at this moment.

You just (unintelligible) tape right now, before we get started.

Sure, I don't wanna see (unintelligible)

Okay. [redacted] uh, these are just minimal questions and the first is to your personal knowledge that you could testify to. Do you have any knowledge, uh, whatsoever of any partic-, of any pricita, jees, any participation by any Greensboro police officer uh, in the events prior to or the events on November 3, 1979?

Any, any n-, names or badge numbers you mean?

No, any personal knowledge of any involvement whatsoever of any Greensboro police officer?

Okay. Yes, uh, there was, there I'm su-, certain there was at least one Greensboro City Police squad car uh, near uh, Car-, Carver Street, very close to Carver Street. Uh, I don't know the name of the other little street but actually it was parked on the corner of Carver and another little street coming up this way.

Okay, and you found these streets going easterly?

Yeah, east. While he, you know, the next one east of Ca-, uh, I mean, Everett, the corner of Everett and the next one up, east.

Okay. Next one east of Carver,

Right.

on Everett Street. Is that right?

Yeah.

How long before this did you observe this, when you arrived at approximately eleven?

Yes. I arrived right at el-, right about eleven or a couple of minutes before.

That's when you saw the car.

That's when I saw the car. It was there when I came

Alright.

And I parked near there somewhere , around Carver, on Everett, not Carver.

Did you see that police car leave the area,

No.

at any one time?

I didn't see it leave but uh, I'm pretty sure it was there at eleven, you know, that's all I know.

You didn't see it there after the shooting.

Well, after the shooting then that, there was uh, okay, my next knowledge of any police I remember is uh, uh, there wa- a policeman came in the area where Sandy, where I, you know, where I was sitting next to Sandy's body and uh, he um, I was really angry at seeing a police because there, it seemed so long before any kind of assistance, and it seemed very clear to me that there was no police preventing this from taking place. The next, you know, from the time I saw the squad car, the next time I saw any policemen, it was, he was in the area of me and Sandy, but he didn't come and, you know, offer any assistance and uh, there was some uh, residents, I assumed they were residents of people, looked like they lived in a project, maybe six or seven people, a little further on uh, further north on Carver, and they uh, he, he said hault or somethin' like that to a man, a black man got out of a car, it might have been a taxi, but I'm not sure, and uh, hault like that and he, and I thought and he reached for his gun and he may have drawn it, I know he reached for it, and I said, "Wait a minute." I said, "He couldn't be any klan. I mean, why don't you go after the people that did this. He couldn't be any klan, you know." So it was this kind of interchange between me and the policeman. And the policeman um, put his, you know, he, he stopped and, and he, I don't know why he just gave up and uh, he, he didn't

b6  
b7C



pursue the man at all. I didn't know if it was the result of what I said or not. And uh, people were standin' there goin', "Yeah, what has he done." Wasn't it clear this man had had any part in it at all. And it was part of my general feeling that the, just uh, well wh-, you know, why run after this man, you know, right now, 'cause clearly, all the people out there were klan types. People who were really shooting. So, that, that was my next re-, memory of any police. And there were a lot of policemen there after, the re-, you know, about that time, the rest of the squad came and uh, and what do you wanta know specifically?

Okay, that's fine. Um, do you have any knowledge from any source of the involvement of any police officer uh, in the events prior to and of November 3, 1979, as far as their participation in these events. As a (unintelligible) factor.

I didn't have anything to do with the uh, organizing of the club activity, permits or anything like that. I didn't have any kind of personal contact, you know, I know this is probly what you're bringing up, but I would like at some point, to ask, in the course of an investigation, whether there was uh, uh, a uh, search, in my view an illegal search of my, my house. My husband, or my husband and I lived on [redacted] in Greensboro in June, I think it was June 7, 1979, I've always wondered if it was related in any way. Because, the, the reason they gave for searching, like they said they were looking for an escaped felon. Th-, it just didn't make sen-, never made sense to me and they said they didn't need a search warrant and I asked for a search warrant. He said, "No I don't have one and I don't need one." And he was pointing a weapon at me, and I've always wondered if this had anything to do with, . .

Okay. Who was, who was the police officer or who was the police agency uh, Greensboro Police Department.

Greensboro Police, uh, I assume, and uh, and

How many police officers were there.

there were plain clothes and uh, uniform.

Okay. And who were they lookin' for, do you know?

They said they were lookin' for an escaped felon named [REDACTED] Now, what was interesting, we went to the newspaper about it and we went to city council about it. Because, no, they they came up with a description of the man and it didn't fit. Anybody that was there, plus no one had seen uh, anyone, our neighbors and, and we had not seen anybody in the area.

Okay now, [REDACTED] was he know to you?

No, I never heard of him in my life.

Okay, and what address were you at, that they searched for him?

Uh, I lived on [REDACTED] and I was si-, uh, I'm not sure of the address now.

You started to say before, there was a nine or something.

No, I'm not sure there was a nine (unintelligible)

Okay,

(unintelligible) Okay, I have a letter. What was interesting after I went to the police, I mean, after I went to the uh, yeah his, I was [REDACTED] Okay. I went, he asked for an investigation by the city police and we went to the city council and we went to the newspaper. And uh, asked for uh, an investigation as to why, you know, why did they think, I mean, 'cause it looked really bad, I mean this poli-, all these policemen came in and did this, ran into our house and naturally, it was a mental reaction, you know, people were wondering what did you do, you know.

What did they do in your house?

They searched it.

The entire house or,

They went through the whole house and they didn't appear to move anything or go through closets or anything, they just went through the whole house.

Did you have any (clears throat) uh, materials that were used for the union work, . .

Uh hmm.

or any sort of, you know, political,

Yeah. Had uh, we uh, actually had the mimeograph machine there, which we ran off the (unintelligible)

Okay. Did the police remove anything from your house?

Not that I was aware of, I. .

They didn't give you a receipt for any property removed.

No. And they, but what, they said very clearly, I said, oh, okay. Where is the search warrant? He was inside the house when I, I was holding my baby it was, at that, she was about 13 months old, I was holding her and I s- uh, and I came towards the front door. I was inside and he was already in, you know, and I said uh, I said uh, where, you know, "Do you have a search warrant?" and he said uh, he said, "I'm gonna, we're gonna search the house. We're looking for an escaped felon." and I said, "Escaped felon, well uh, do you have a search warrant?" and he said, "No, and I don't need one." like that, very definitely and he had a gun, he had a, a lo-, a shotgun or somethin' like that in his hand and I decided I was gonna get outside real fast, you know, to make sure that nothin' happened inside.

Do you have with you a copy of the letter received from the police department.

Yeah. This is,

Could we read the response to your inquiry?

Yeah.

You can shut the tape off while we read it.

Okay. [redacted] in regards to the search of your residence in June 7th, 1979, uh, you made the statement to the fact that your husband was involved in some union activities at that time and had signed a affidavit to the National Labor Relations Board.

Yeah.

Please continue.

Yeah, he had, he, we um, you know, the only activity we have been recently involved in, very recently

involved in, very recently involved in, you know, that, (clears throat) he had then become visible as a spokesperson for the white organ-, white oak(?) organizing committee and uh, he was on the uh, joint council of AFLCIO in, in Greensboro, and uh, he had just signed this affidavit uh, of, of, labor, uh, uh, failure to represent I think, but anyway, unfair labor practices against the union, so we've went, you know, we felt there was harassment uh, for labor ac-, activity.

Okay.

Because they couldn't come up with sound reason, there didn't seem any evidence of uh, an escaped felon in our house.

Okay. Okay, now in regards to uh, the events of November 3rd, do you have any knowledge of any involvement of any agent of the United States, that is the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and/or the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

No I have no knowledge.

Okay. Do you have any, uh, . . .

No, I was never approached and asked, any, anything about it. I really expected to be approached and asked what did I see and I was never approached that way.

Okay. In regards to any federal, state or city uh, employee or agent of those government agencies, do you know of any involvement of any individuals in the events which occurred before November 3rd, November 3rd and after November 3rd?

No, as far as I understand the question.

Okay. Do you have any areas that you would request the Federal Grand Jury and this investigation to review in addition to the ones which you have already mentioned to us?

Well, if you, I hope you're including the uh, I'm asking that, that there be, (sigh) just check to investigated whether this was, this search of our house, which I think was illegal, whether that had anything to do with some kind of investigation of labor activists in Greensboro.

Okay. Did you, (unintelligible) after the police left, did you check the property that you had in the house as far as any documents or,

Yes.

papers were concerned.

I couldn't determine if anything was taken, no.

Okay. And you did not see the officers leave with anything.

No. But he did see that we had a mimeograph machine.

Okay. And did you inquire with the police department and make reference to the fact that anything could have been taken from your residence with, without your knowledge?

Uh, I think that we probably asked that. I'd be surprised if we didn't, but I don't remember it. That wasn't really an issue. We didn't, didn't seem that they had taken anything.

Okay.

With regards to the search of your house uh, were there other people at your house besides yourself (unintelligible).

Yes.

Who else was there?

Uh, [redacted] (Phonetic) was there, . . and my husband.

Anyone else?

And my baby.

Anyone else?

No.

And you said that uh, some neighbors uh, either observed this or came as this was ending or something?

Uh hmm.

Who were your neighbors?

I don't remember (unintelligible), but it was the neighbor right next door on the corner. Don't remember her name.

(Saying someone's name, unintelligible)

What?

(Unintelligible, repeating)

Did I tell you that? 'Cause I don't remember her name now.

(Unintelligible)

The neighbor on the corner.

(Someone coughing)

Next door on the corner. They lived across the street, an elderly couple, uh, across the street on the corner, I mean on the corner, on the, yes, they were on the corner of [redacted] and uh, - let's see, what street (unintelligible) (loud noise in background drowning out talking)

(Someone else talking, unintelligible)

Say [redacted] and,

Tryin' to think of the name of the road, that goes along there. [redacted] (Phonetic) On both, the people in both houses on uh, either side of the, of the street saw this (unintelligible)

Okay. Now, with reference to uh, with reference to the weapon you had uh, on November 3rd, can you tell us why you brought that weapon with you?

Well uh, mainly because I was uh, traveling alone to Greensboro, well with me and my child, and I had to drive, from Kannapolis, I had to drive through China Grove, which of course, that was where we had the demonstration five months earlier, and uh, my car was not very reliable and when traveling by myself, or just me and my baby, I sometimes took a gun just for self-protection. So that would be I, I would you know, I took it for that reason, and I got very nervous about the whole um, the, the demonstration, you know, I was really, I was afraid that there would be some kind of attack from, you know, klan types. I thought more

likely really, when I was going to or from the demonstration, and in Greensboro I was, you know, I wasn't completely anonymous. I had been uh, I was, you know, known to be involved with uh, labor work and (unintelligible) so, I didn't know who, there might be some quote the klan types that knew, either had uh, you know, people that weren't, even the, the un-, the credit the, one of the people at the mill, all the workers said once, something about uh, gettin' the, the klan like on (unintelligible) needs, so I just didn't really know who would, who would know me, but I felt a little bit visible that way,

Did any, anybody, . .

so I wanted to have protection.

Did anybody associated with the planning preparation of the demonstration request that you bring a weapon that day?

No, af-, no. In fact, I think if, I really felt that, you know, I knew that weapons were, were not the thing, you know, but I wanted it for my own protection, you know, we were not going to bring weapons, was my understanding and they weren't gonna be visible. So I certainly saw nobody with visible weapons from the demonstrators' side. I just br-, it was purely my decision, you know, to bring it. Didn't even tell anybody I brought it.

Now, while you were working at Kannapolis, that's with Sandy Smith, okay, right?

Yes.

Do you have any information regarding uh, people with photographs of members of the demonstration on November 3rd uh, prior to November 3rd, showing those photographs uh, around the Kannapolis plant?

No.

You have no information concerning that?

No, I didn't think that occurred, I didn't know that.

Okay. This concludes the interview of uh, [redacted] on May 3, 1982, at Richmond, Virginia. It is not 4:46 p.m.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6/15/82

On May 3, 1982, [REDACTED] was interviewed at Richmond, Virginia. A transcript of the interview is as follows:

Investigation on 5/3/82 at Richmond, Virginia File # CE 44-3527  
by SA [REDACTED] / mst Date dictated 5/3/82

SUBA  
405



Okay, this is [redacted] I'm a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, assigned to Greensboro, North Carolina. This is May 3, 1982, at Richmond, Virginia. The time is now 5:10 p. m. in the evening. This is the interview of [redacted] at the Richmond office of the FBI. Also present are his attorneys and representatives from the Department of Justice and FBI headquarters. Would you please identify yourself for the record please.

[redacted] My name is [redacted] with Greensboro Justice Fund and note our objection to Agent [redacted] conducting the interview.

[redacted] Greensboro Justice Fund.

[redacted] Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C.

[redacted] Attorney, Department of Justice.

Okay, [redacted] would you please identify yourself.

Yes. My name is [redacted] I live at [redacted]

Is [redacted]

Okay. Okay, how long have you lived here in Richmond, Virginia?

Uh, a little better than a year.

Okay, back in 1979, sir, would, at that time where did you live?

In the beginning of 1979 I lived in Greensboro, worked at Cone Mills White Oak Plant.

And what address did you live at Greensboro?

(sighs) Well, I moved a couple of times in 1979, I, uh, the beginning of 79 I lived on, at, uh, my, uh, what was the name of it. it was on Grr. . . ., uh, [redacted], I think, [redacted], uh, [redacted], I believe that was it. And, uh, lived there 'til March and then moved to, uh, a house at some, uh, uh, friends of ours had moved out of on [redacted] [redacted] yeah, [redacted]. And lived there until, uh, August and in August, uh, we moved to Kannapolis.

Okay, and during this period of time from January, 1979, to August, 1979, how were you employed?

I worked at Cone Mills as a beamer . . . at White Oak Plant.

Okay, tell us what a beamer is.

Uh, it was a machine operator, I worked in the production of blue denim.

Okay, and in your capacity as an employee of, uh, Cannon Mills in Greensboro, did you also participate in any union activities?

Well, it was Cone Mills in Greensboro and yes, I, I was, uh, I was a shop steward, I was, uh, representative of our local union to the Greensboro Central Labor Union. I was on the executive board of the Greensboro Central Labor Union.

Okay, and what union was that?

Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, Local 1391.

And for how long have you been a shop steward for that union?

Off and on for about four years.

Uh, is that in the Greensboro area?

Yes.

Okay.

All at the same plant.

Okay, were you associated with or did you know people in an organization known as the Workers Viewpoint Organization in 1979?

Yes, I knew, uh, some people who were in it who, well, Bill Sampson. he worked in the same plant I did, and [redacted] uh . . .

Okay, was Bill Sampson involved in union activity?

Sure. He, he was the president of the White Oak Organizing Committee which was a, uh, I guess rank and file caucus I guess is the term, and at least we refer to ourselves as being, uh, within, within the local union, it wasn't a separate labor organization as such. It was a, a caucus within the, uh, local union, it was, had really been in, uh, operation since in different forms, since the summer of 75. Uh, sometimes more and sometimes less activity. Uh, and Bill when he, uh, joined, uh, the union at our plant, he got involved in the White Oak Organizing Committee and played a real strong role in, uh, organizing the departments that he worked in from the dye house to the card room workers.

Okay, did you know [redacted] also at that time?

Yes, I had met him when he was, uh, worked, well, I met him when he worked at Printworks, which was another Cone Mill right across the street from the plant I worked in. He was, uh, the [redacted] of the Printworks newspaper, the union, it's also a local union, and, uh, I was, uh, the [redacted] of the White Oak, uh, uh, union newsletter, and we met each other, uh, during that period of time, and I knew him, you know, right along.

Yeah, did you know Dr. Jim Walla?

Sure. I'd known him in Durham, uh, I had worked with him in, uh, setting up, uh, brown lung screening clinics in, well, mainly in Greensboro. That was about the time I moved to Greensboro from Durham.

Okay, and was Dr. Walla involved in union activities?

Sure. Well, he was elected president of his local union, uh, in 78, 79, and had lead a strike there in 78.

Okay, and did there come a time when you knew, uh, [REDACTED]

Sure. I knew him, uh, from when I was a student at Duke and, uh, he, uh, again I worked with him setting up, uh, brown lung screening clinics.

Now you say when you were a student at Duke, uh, what school, uh, did you attend at Duke University?

I was in, uh, the graduate school at Duke in, uh, [REDACTED]

And that's where you met [REDACTED]

Yes.

Okay, and did you know Dr. Michael Nathan?

Uh, no, I never really knew, uh, I knew who he was, uh, I saw his face but I never really knew Mike Nathan.

Okay, and did you come to know Sandra Smith?

Uh, yes, I knew her quite well.

Okay, tell us how you knew Mrs. Smith.

Uh, she was working at, uh, Revolution, another Cone plant right in the same cluster of plants, uh, yeah, if you know Greensboro, you know what

I'm talkin' about. And we, we met, uh, right, shortly after I moved to Greensboro, she, uh, worked, she was a member of the Brown Lung Association, she joined at the same time I did, uh, and she was, uh, from the [redacted] we, you know, knew each other from 1975 on.

Okay, in reference to your employment, in August of 1979, you left the, uh, Cannon Mills . . .

Cone Mills

Cone Mills in Greensboro and you sought employment where sir?

Uh, Cannon Mills in Kannapolis, uh,

And for how long a period were you employed there?

From August until, uh, April, I believe, April of 80.

And during that period of time were you also involved in union activities, uh, in that plant?

Uh, at a very elementary level, I was. There was no formal union drive on, but that was the reason I moved to Kannapolis was to help start and organize a committee with the Cannon workers there, uh, it didn't, didn't ever really get off the ground, uh, uh, partly, partly, partly that was, uh, due to some of the events of November 3, sort of, uh, detracted at least my efforts and, you know, away from that type of thing.

Okay. Did there come a time in 1979 when through your union activities or through your association with people who were, uh, involved in union activities become aware of a rise of Klan activity in the state of North Carolina and other areas of the southeast United States?

Sure.

Okay, would you tell us about it please.

Well, it was, uh, let me remember, uh, how I came aware, it, it was hard to miss it, it was, uh, uh, Klan activities were being reported, uh, a lot

more in the, in the, in the press anyway. And, uh, that was, uh, one of the things that, uh, you know, sparked, uh, my interest and other people who worked at Cone, uh, I knew people, uh, who I just worked around, general folks in the mill who at one time or other had belonged to the Klan some years before and it didn't seem to me that this was, it was hard to believe that the Klan really was having a resurgence because nobody seemed to know anything about anything locally and they, uh, but, that, it was reports of, uh, it in northern Alabama, all these Klansmen running around and burning crosses and giving people a hard time and that was reported very well, I think on Twenty Twenty, uh, the news magazine show they did have around that time in northern Mississippi, uh, they had had a, a, well I heard, was it Rivera, Hernando Rivera, did a special on it and so those were the closest things that, uh, uh, made us realize things were, the Klan was tryin' to make a comeback and that they were being actively fanned by the media. The, in Winston Salem they, they, uh, I saw on the news anyway they had come there and shown their film in the library and that there had been some, uh, demonstration of sorts outside of that.

Okay, other than your knowledge which was obtained through the news media of Klan activity, during your union activities, uh, have you ever had a confrontation with members of the Klan?

That's a good question . . . uh, no. Not to my knowledge. Uh, never had run into 'em before that's why, why I said it, it was somewhat unreal to see all the stuff being whipped up about the Klan on the rise when they, there hadn't ever really been much activity as far as I could tell. The people would talk about things that had happened ten years before but not anything that I ever went to, ran into personally until, uh, the summer of 79.

Okay, did there come a time then in the summer of 79 when you became aware of any Klan activity planned in the state of North Carolina?

b6  
b7C

[REDACTED]

Uh, well, the, let's see, there was, uh, the China Grove thing where the Klan was gonna show their Birth of a Nation film and were building it up and, uh, it hit the newspapers and, uh, uh, of course, well, now this is somewhat out of the context of what all we were doin' within the White Oak, uh, group of workers, we, at the time we were also involved in a lot of other activities but, uh, in fact let me, let me paint the picture of that in the context of which the, the Klan activity sort of fits. And it might help, uh, at least help you understand how we, uh, we got involved in this stuff, uh. The, uh, in the summer of 78 there was a lot of, uh, there was a real rise in union activity around the state of North Carolina and especially at Cone Mills, a lot . . . at different plants. Lots of organized committees were, were beginning to be active and in labor organizing one of the key things at least in my experience is that you get a, you know, a good group of representative folks at the plant and meet together consistently and can withstand the, the, the, the sort of the tides of whatever little spontaneous protests somebody might wanta launch over a particular issue, but if somethin' can crystalize out and, uh, in the state it's like a, as a body of people who continue to meet, that you're well on the way to, uh, to buildin' something. And, and that occurred in the summer of 78, so that over the course of time, uh, by, uh, through the fall of, uh, 78, we were, uh, in a position to challenge the, uh, existing leadership of the local union for, uh, actually win through the election, uh, the, you know, presidency and various offices and positions in our local union. I was a candidate and [REDACTED] was a candidate, uh, Bill Sampson was running for president of the local. I, I was running for, I can't remember now, uh, I can't remember, one of those, I think recording secretary, or something like that, but, uh, and about that time the, uh, union, uh, decided that they, uh, didn't like the kind of folks who was fixin' to win the election and they moved in and they, uh, put everybody under, uh, administratorship. Appointed an administrator, called off all our union meetings and, uh, at that point, uh, we began to think of how can we get around this thing, 'cause we were not

gonna let 'em block, block us like this. Uh, the granite workers, that's the, uh, local at Granite, uh, Cone's parent plant, I think, local 113T, that, uh, Jim was in, went over, had a, uh, union meeting which they called it on, over and above the restrictions placed upon 'em by the administratorship and, and elected Jim president anyway. Wasn't long after that they, uh, fired Jim. They said he, well, ah hah you're a doctor, you can't work in the mill anymore and so, uh, at that point we, uh, began to look into, uh, well, we went to the Teamsters, uh, they were in the process of organizing, uh, a lot in Winston Salem area, they were organizing the Winston Salem policemen, they were making, uh, some efforts down at, uh, uh, fiber, uh, Fiber Industries I think they call it near Salisbury. And, uh, they were, they talked to us several times about, about this. Well, this went on and they, they kinda weren't too interested 'cause they decided that they sort of had a agreement with AFL-CIO they were not gonna be too, I don't know, step on each others toes, so, uh, towards the summer of uh, the, uh, summer of 79, we were thinkin' real seriously about formin' an independent union, uh, that would . . . And one of the reasons well, uh, at least in, in, in, uh, our thinking about it was one of the reasons that the textile workers, uh, the only major industry in the country that had never, unions had never made any, uh, impact at all, for all of the problems that unions have, but had never even gotten, uh, the door open as far as at least collectively getting together and, and and resolving their problems, they, unions had never been able to get, uh, get over, uh, in in textiles. And why? why, you know, are the workers here different than the workers other places in, in, uh, and uh, we felt that one of the reasons that in the south it had, well, well first of all, textiles is concentrated in the south and, uh, but one of the reasons they had been, uh, they had kept the unions weak had been the ability of the, uh, mills to divide up the white and the black workers, so it was of paramount importance that, uh, I felt as a white union activist, paramount importance to demonstrate and practice that,



you know, we stood against racism, we stood against, uh, this kind of division that had, uh, separated people for so long. And that's why, for quite some time before 79, even in 78, we, uh, from the mills, you know, organized people to go to, uh, the April 4, 78, uh, march in Raleigh to, uh, around the Wilmington ten. And this wasn't always real popular in the, in the mills among white workers when you're all involved in this other stuff. You know, but, uh, like I said we felt that it was important to 'em. You know, in the long run to take a stand on this kind of issues. Uh, so as in context of, uh, laying the ground work for it, uh, a union, an independent union that would not be held back by the hesitation at the, uh, and, and for that matter corruption that we saw in the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, uh, nor the hesitancy and corruption that was holding back the Teamsters. Uh, and could cut, cut through, uh, the racial barriers and unify all the, you know, the, uh, workers in these cotton mills that we felt we could really do this. Well, the Kl . . . , meanwhile the Klan's, I, at the time I saw it as - ah hah, you know, they, they realize we are in a position to, to be able to make an impact and, and they are, and I say they, I, I, you know, at the time and still I feel some kind of weight that the, uh, North Carolina power structure includes these, uh, textile interests and that they decided they were gonna promote the Klan in order to use their old, uh, standby, uh, not that it's some master conspiracy, there is certainly in the culture there are elements there that can be found, uh, independently from anybody's conspiracy to say okay, we're gonna create the Klan again but I think there was a conscious element there. And I, it was important to take a stand against that. That's why the White Oak Organizing Committee took, you know, went on record and, uh, took the stand that we would, uh, uh, when it came up, when the Klan came down to, uh, we're gonna go to China Grove I understood through, uh, through Bill, uh, and he, who had talked I think to [redacted] or, I don't know exactly how

b6  
b7c

b6  
b7c

the information came but the people in China Grove were, were, uh, up for, uh, a counter demonstration against the Klan. And so come July, you say July 8, I don't remember exactly. I, I, that sounds about right, we went down. And, uh, to have a counter demonstration, and, uh, I went down, [redacted] went down, and, uh, of course, that was, uh, pretty heavy situation that that that developed that day.

Can you tell us what developed that day?  
I have a lot of questions, uh,

Sure.

On whether I'll get paid today.

(Group laughs)

Right, uh, well, let's see, I, I got down there, we left it was, what was it a Saturday or, uh, you remember what it, uh, in, I think it was on a weekend. Well, we went down there and got there sometime in the middle or late morning, uh, and, uh, there was a lot of people, I'd say there was a hundred people or so or a hundred and fifty.

Watch his watch.

Oh, okay.

(Group laughs)

Unknown Male: The time is five thirty.

Uh, gathered around the, uh, west, I think they call it the west end or the west, uh, west side of the community center and, uh, were, you know, gettin' spirited and chantin' and gettin' all fired up and we, uh, we lined up and, uh, uh, we marched down to the, uh, China Grove where the Klan was gonna be and, uh, of course, I, we didn't really know what was gonna be there, it was, uh, the Klan was there so we were gonna go there and counter demonstrate. Uh, when we got there the Klan was out there with, uh, all kind of weapons and, and everything, and, uh, everybody I think was pretty well taken, uh, by surprise at that.

and so, uh, the march moved right on in on, uh, you know, right on top of 'em where they were, there was a very dangerous confrontation there for a few minutes. Uh, then, uh, the, uh, during which time I don't, uh, I remember seein', uh, the one of the rebel flags burnin' and then we moved along, circled around the street behind the community center and went back to the, uh, west side, uh, black area of town and, uh, had a, had another rally.

Okay, tell me about the demonstrators you were with. What did you observe them carryin'?

Uh, people were carryin', uh, uh, sticks and bats and, uh, various things like that, you know, little sticks and bats and pieces of pipe and stuff like that, uh, from, uh, I was carryin' I think a stick or a bat. From uh, I guess it was the anticipation that, uh, when you counter demonstrate against the Klan, especially when they're tryin' to look all bad and everything that you, you know, you'd be foolish to go in and just sing songs, uh, you know, to deal with that. So it, uh, people did carry, uh, some people carried sticks and stuff as a defensive measure.

Did you notice any cards being carried by any of the demonstrators you were with?

No. No, not at all. A matter of fact, that was, uh, I, well, I don't know what brought that to be. I, I knew it was, uh, I had never been to a demonstration where people walked around with firearms visible. It was just not done, uh,

Can you tell me what . . .

The Klan was the only people up until that day, up until July 8, that was the first time I ever saw a demonstration with people walkin' around with a bunch of, uh, guns.

Can you tell us what you observed of the Klan on July 8?

Well just the, uh, as, uh, we, as the demo . . . our counter demonstration came around the corner, uh, they were on the, uh, porch of the community center lined up and I remember one of the guys he was a older fella had a shotgun and he took aim at [redacted] was sort ahead of everybody else. He sort of took , drew a bead on [redacted] and was, uh, looked like he was fixin' to shoot [redacted] and, uh, one of the, uh, I think there were two policemen there, uniformed police officers, and one of the policemen, uh, intervened, you know, and gr . . . , you know, pushed the gun down and so, uh, to keep this guy from shootin' [redacted] and you know that was one of things that occurred and

What other type of weapons did you see being carried by members of the Klan?

Oh, pistols, uh, out, pistols in pockets, uh, there were some, uh, several looked like, uh, M-1 carbines, uh, I saw a couple of, uh, weapons that looked like, uh, AR-15 type of weapons.

Did any members of the Klan besides that one individual point weapons at the demonstrators?

Uh, it appeared, I mean, it, uh, the way I saw it at the time I thought they were, but, uh, that stood out real strong in my recollection, this guy drawing a bead on [redacted]

Okay, were there any exchange of remarks between the two groups then?

There was a (Unintelligible) of chanting and hollering and stuff from both sides. There was quite a bit of that.

What do you recall was said by both sides, first the demonstrators you were with?

Uh, death to the Klan, and, uh, and, that's all I remember mainly of things being said and, uh, uh, oh, another one was somethin' about the beast, uh, deace, deace the ugly beast or somethin', uh, somethin' just sort of came up on the spot and the, the Klan were makin' all

[REDACTED]

Okay, this is just a test of the equipment to ensure that it is working properly. This is SA [REDACTED] on May 3, 1982, at Richmond, Virginia.

Unknown Male: Talking about Sandy Smith living . . .

[REDACTED]

No, that's we've been through that. Okay. Okay, [REDACTED] uh, did there come a time after July 8 while you were living in Kannapolis in, in the, uh, Cannon Mills down there that you became aware of a demonstration to be planned at Greensboro, North Carolina?

Uh, yes.

Okay, tell us the circumstances and your knowledge involving this demonstration.

Uh, well, Sandy informed, told us there was gonna be a, well, it, it started out as a, uh, gonna be a conference, uh, anti-Klan conference in Greensboro November 3, uh, to bring together uh, different people around the state who were interested in, you know, takin' a stand against the Klan. Uh, and, uh, well, I saw, uh, some leaflets that came out, uh, advertising, you know, and, uh, pretty much characterized my knowledge of it.

Had you ever come to Greensboro to help plan or participate in this conference and rally?

Did I come . . .

to Greensboro to help plan for or participate in this rally?

No. Not, uh, no I never came up for any planning meetings at all.

Okay, did you pass out any kind of leaflets or brochures to people in Kannapolis or other cities, uh . . .

Uh, I don't think so. Uh, I don't recall anyway having, uh, done that. There may have been people that I knew, you know, you know, one on one I might have, I'm sure I did, uh, share leaflets and so forth.

Remember, you don't remember his name?

(Sighs) uh, his nickname was [REDACTED]  
And I don't, you know, I don't remember.  
He was a black guy and I don't remember, uh,  
his name.

He has dog breath I guess, huh?

(Group laughs)

But, uh, off hand I don't remember . . .

How old a gentleman was he?

He was, uh, a young guy about in his early  
well, in his middle twenties I guess.

Okay, do you think you could point him out in  
a photograph?

Uh, I'm not sure I'd recognize anything.

Uh, in, did you notice that this caravan,  
when, when you first noticed this caravan  
was it coming to a stop?

Uh, no, when I first noticed the caravan it  
was coming' up the street towards me.

When did you first become aware that it was  
uh Klan people?

Uh, there was, I started wondering when I  
saw the rebel flag on the license tag, but  
that doesn't mean that necessarily, but that's  
piqued my curiosity and then when the guy called  
me a kike I was pretty sure.

Now describe the car that the guy called you,  
they guy who called you kike was in.

I, I, I'd love to be able to, but I, I don't  
remember it that well at this point. I might,  
if I could look at the pictures more I might  
could tell you but I don't remember what kind  
of car it was. I wasn't . . .

Color?

I sense it was green, but like I said, it, it my memory's real fuzzy on it. I remember what he said, I remember my emotions more than I remember exactly what kind of vehicle it was.

What did you do then?

But I do, I think it was, let me say this, I think it was a, uh, wait a minute, let me see, there was a couple, I think it, it was a truck because he was about the same level, you know, how a pickup sets up at little bit. I think it was a truck 'cause he was about that same level, uh, but it wasn't just a truck it was a back seat to it. This may be funny. I don't remember it that good, but, uh, like a Travellall type of thing what . . . I mean, you know. . .

Okay. Well, what did you do then?

Uh, then, when?

After this fella called you a kike? You were sittin' in your . . .

I was still sittin' in my, in my, uh, in my car and I got out of the car at that point and, uh, well, I turned off the motor, I mean, you know, I wasn't goin' anywhere that way so I got out of the car and, uh . . .

The, uh, fellow from China Grove that was with you, did he get out too?

Uh, he, I don't think he, okay, what, uh, he later told me what he did was that he got out right after I did and he lit out towards the Paradise Club, which is across, you know, back and, uh, he didn't show up again until everything was all over.

Okay. And you got out with him.

Uh, when I got I, uh, the, I started walking down towards, uh, where most of the people were and, uh, the guy with the yellow car gunned his motor in my direction and I jumped out of the way and kicked his car and, uh, then I, uh, continued towards the intersection of Carver and Everett, the the the car stopped the guy shot his gun, people started piling out of the car . . .

Stop right there. When, when the guy in the yellow car came at you and, uh, you jumped out of the way and kicked his car, before that, had you seen anybody strike any of the vehicles?

Yeah. Yeah, I did. I saw, uh, yeah, when I first got out of my truck I saw people were, uh, uh, gettin' real close on the cars and it looked like some people were banging on it, but wasn't no whole lot of that but there was some of that goin' on.

Now, was there someone, a demonstrator, uh, who was in your general vicinity also around that yellow car that, uh, kicked at it at about the same time you did? Same side of the street you were on?

As this guy comes gunnin' up the street I think there was another guy, he was at first was headin' towards, uh, and that guy got out of the way and he, then he swerved towards me.

Do you remember who that other guy was?

No idea. I wasn't really lookin' at it that close. It was, uh, uh, a black guy but I don't remember, I don't know him.

It wasn't your friend from the China Grove?

No. No, he, he has, he was behind me, I think, uh, he got out of the truck after I did. I was sort of movin' down quicker than he did. You . . .

He talked about somethin' that was further up the street than you did, the guy who, uh, the car came at first.



Yeah, on that, on the map there right over the C was about where, uh, direction was about you know (Unintelligible) direction, yeah. It was about where that happened.

Okay. So this yellow car came by somebody here who jumped out of his way.

Right. And then . . .

You were further down here, is that right?

Yeah. He, uh, as I say, he was headed at me from that point.

Did you, did you, were you aware of somebody who was still further down the street . . .

Than me?

Than you.

No.

That, uh, jumped out of the way of that car?

No. I don't remember that.

Now, you then went from down here. That's when you talked about the stick fight happenin', right?

Yeah.

Alright. Now you said somethin' about several different people and I wanta see if I can clarify this in my own mind. You said that someone got out of the car with a gun. Uh, can you give me what kind of car that was and what kind of gun it was, the best you recall.

The gun I remember real well. The car I don't.

Okay, what do you remember . . .

Uh, I remember he just sort of either leaned out the window or opened the door and the guy kind of got up in the thing and he had a, uh, western style, uh, revolver with a fairly long barrel.

I'd say six or eight inch barrel.

Did you see anyone fire it?

Yes, I sure did. Uh,

How many times?

I remember, I just remember the first one.  
I don't know how many times he fired it,  
but that was, uh,

Uh, do you remember the first shot?

Yeah.

Uh, now you said somethin' else about somebody  
else gettin' out of a car with a gun.

Right.

Okay, where was that?

That was, uh, in between where I was standin',  
which was close to this telephone pole and and  
the guy out there, uh, with the, with the, uh,  
revolver. This other fellow leaned into the  
car and and pulled out a shotgun.

Uh huh. Well, do you remember where that car  
was or what kind of car?

Uh, it was a car, that's all I remember.

As opposed to . . .

As opposed to a truck.

Yeah. You don't remember color or anything?

No, sure don't.

Can you, can you tell us anything about the, the  
person you saw lean in this car and pull out a  
shotgun?

Uh, it was a man, uh, older than I, and and a little, uh, I think he had kind of a gut and . . .

This is a continuation of the interview of [redacted] [redacted] at Richmond, Virginia on May 3, 1982. [redacted] you were describing the individual who reached in and pulled out a shotgun from his vehicle west on Everett Street. Please continued your description.

Like I said, he was an, uh, uh, a man, and his, my estimation was in his, uh, late 30's or, or so. He was, uh, uh, shorter than I am. He probably was 5'8" or so, uh, somewhat hea. . . you know, he had sort of a, uh, like I said, a beer gut of sorts. Uh, and black, uh, dark hair.

What about the length of his hair?

Well, not real long, uh, not real long. It wasn't shoulder length, but it, uh, medium length I guess. I I I think it was probably over his ears and all but I, I can't remember that real close.

Do you remember seeing that person fire the weapon?

He got out and and, uh, I, and and he started walking over towards the community center with it, uh, he had it up in the air. Uh, I don't think I, I don't think I saw him fire it.

Do you recall hearing it being fired?

I heard a lot of fire. But I was not clear . . . At that, like I said, at that point I was still at the telephone pole and I saw him with the gun going this way, uh, I saw the guy in front shoot it. I wasn't aware of any other, and I was also aware of, uh, I don't know, I'm time is real funny, I may or may not have been aware of any fire comin' from there. I don't think I heard anything yet from down east, uh, on on Everett Street. Well, I ran back to my truck and looked out from behind it was when I saw the guys down here in the intersection, uh, well,

the one guy with, uh, uh, two pistols or it looked like (Unintelligible) pistols but he was doin' like a western shoot 'em up thing with his six gun and, uh, and the other guys with the shotguns were aimin'. That's when I saw that, but I didn't see this man who initially I saw initially with the shotgun shoot it.

So, you, you were already, first of all, on this diagram here, I've drawn in a little telephone pole. It's, uh, basically, uh, straight across from the northwest corner of Everett Park. Is that where you remember the telephone being, telephone pole being?

In other words, is that is that . . .

South side of Everett Street, right by the parkin' lot there.

Yes. It was about where it is on that map.

It's basically right across from the northwest corner of Carver and Everett, is that how you remember it to be?

b6  
b7C

In that vicinity. I wasn't, I wasn't fixin' on the corner per se. I couldn't tell you how well it lined up from the corner but yeah it was about right there.

So what you're saying is that you were at this telephone pole when you saw this man with a shotgun down west of you, is that right?

Yes.

And then also at that same time there was a fight goin' on in the street up here.

That's right.

Now, at any time did you see, you didn't see Sandy Smith and, uh, Bill Sampson and some other people over here?

I didn't, I was not aware of them. I, not that I didn't see 'em, but I wasn't, I wasn't aware of 'em.

Okay, now you said you went back from this location down to your truck.

Right.

Now, what was happening when you left here and went back down to your truck?

The, the fight was was still, they were still swingin' and stuff, uh, beatin' up on somebody right by the, the pickup truck in the intersection. Uh, at that point I lit out to my truck and that's all I was lookin' at was, was gettin' to, behind the truck. So I basically didn't see anything but the fender of my truck between the time I lit out from the telephone pole to the truck. And that's when I, once I had secured myself, that's when I looked again.

When did you, then did you look back east?

Uh, yes, I looked towards the firing, uh, all the, all that was goin' on right around the back of this pickup truck.

Well, now, when you took off from this telephone pole was there firin' goin' on?

I don't, I was aware that a shot had been fired. Uh, now . . .

From where?

From up front, from the guy in the front of the caravan.

Right.

Uh, and that was the only real shot I was aware of at that time. When I ran back towards my, uh, truck, and that's when, uh, I heard a whole lot of fire goin' on.

Well let me ask you this. You heard some, you heard a shot go off up here, right?

Right.

While you're movin' away from it.

Right.

Okay now you get to this telephone pole, you see a fight goin' on here and you move back towards the same direction the shot had come from.

Right. Uh, I was behind a telephone pole partially to be, uh, uh, see I didn't have any friends near me and there was a whole crowd of these guys beatin' the hell out of somebody and I didn't want them to see me and beat the hell out of me so I was, one reason I was standin' in the view of them, I mean the telephone pole was blocking my view of these guys, uh, and, uh, meanwhile the guy with the shotgun had had had come down towards this intersection. So now the the real the real, you know, the real artillery and all like that was, and I saw the threat as havin' gotten closer to where I was by the telephone pole. That's when I ran out to my truck.

So you ran back but you exposed yourself in runnin' down the street.

Right. But I was pretty exposed standin' by that telephone pole too.

Let me ask you, do you recall any shots being fired from over in this area? Over in this intersection before you left this telephone pole to go back down towards your truck?

(Pause) Right off I have to say no, I don't remember it real clear. Uh, well, on the other hand, like you're sayin', I (Pause) I don't remember it. I can't honestly say I remember any firing actually havin' happened from that direction at the time I left the pole.

Okay, and you didn't, did you see anybody over there? Did you see any weapons over there around that, around that intersection, or this pickup truck or anywhere in this whole area before you left that telephone pole and went back towards your truck?

I saw sticks and stuff. I didn't any, I saw the, the guy with the shotgun I was aware of was walked over towards the corner here.

Comin' from this direction.

Comin' from that direction down towards the corner.

How close to this corner did he get?

He got, got right about even with the telephone pole as I recall, pretty close to that corner. Uh, and that's, uh, I lit back out towards my truck. The, but I wasn't aware of any other gunshots. Uh, in hindsight I know there was bound to have been other gunshots but I don't know what order they were in or and I, like I say, I was I was I didn't want those guys to start, uh, beatin' up on me who beat up on that guy by the truck.

Do you remember, do you remember standin' at this pole and, uh, this stick fight breaks up and Caesar Coffsey's standin' right here in this intersection.

Uh, no, I don't, I remember seein' that, I seen it on the video tape but I don't, I won't think I was there at the time. I don't remember seein' that.

Well

I, it, well,

You don't remember seein' that that day?

Right. See I was, uh, my vision of that intersection was was was obstructed by, uh, the side of the pole I was standin' on.

Depends on which, uh, which way you're lookin' at the pole, right?

That's true. And I was still kinda lookin' back towards, uh, where the first shootin' had started.

Well, do you remember, I'll show you this in a few minutes.

Okay.

Okay. But at one point you're standin' on this side of the pole.

Uh huh.

Okay. And then somethin' happens. . .

Uh huh.

. . . and you move over to this side of the pole.

Oh, huh.

Okay. And if you look at the video tape when that happens, Caesar Coffsey's standin' right there.

Uh huh.

He turns and looks over the top of this pickup truck. Do you remember that?

(Pause)

Yeah. Uh, I don't remember Caesar but I'll tell ya what I remember. I remember I wanted to go back after that day 'cause I wanted to see if there was a bullet in that telephone pole. 'Cause I thought somebody was shootin' at me. I, at, and I ducked behind the telephone pole and I thought, I remember to this day I wonder was there a bullet uh went into that telephone pole, you know how it is, but anyway, but I remember, I remember that.

What did you see when you looked over there?

(Background noises) (unknown individuals mumbling)



[redacted] we were discussing your movement around this telephone pole and your attention over this pickup shot, pickup truck.

Uh huh.

And my question to you was, you, you were aware of some shot being fired from the other side of that pickup truck, is that correct?

That's correct.

And I asked you if you had any impression whether it was a bullet or a shotgun and your answer . . .

Was no. I don't, I I can't say whether it was a shotgun or what.

And and nothing about your impression that you wanted to go look at the, at the telephone pole to see if there was a bullet in it aids you in recalling whether that day you thought it was a, a handgun or a shotgun, is that correct?

That's correct. Probably the reason I would have thought it might have been a bullet was that a shotgun's spread might would have wounded me 'cause I was pokin' out on the sides of the shotgun, of, uh, the pole, uh, so I that was why I thought that but it's not based on anything real rational.

And I, also do you recall any of the people that you, that you may have seen on the other side of that pickup truck?

No sir. I can't say. Uh, I don't know, I wasn't real aware of anything on the other side of the pickup truck except the source of the shot I heard.

Well, okay. And then I asked you if you recall seeing Caesar Coffsey move from the driver's side of that pickup truck around that pickup truck.

I don't remember that..

Is there anything else you recall when that shot was fired?

No not right now, no.

One other thing that I asked you before that we need to get recorded was do you recall hearing the sequence of shots of two very quick shots and then a short delay, then another shot?

No. I don't recall that.

Do you recall seein' [ ] over here?

No. I don't remember that either.

Do you know who [ ] . . .

I know [ ]

. . . . do you know who [ ] is?

I didn't, I wasn't aware of his presence over there.

Do you recall seein', uh, Jim Walla over there?

No, I, uh, early on, uh, when I, when I first saw the Klan, uh, and all that and about the time I was thinkin' about gettin' out of my truck I did see Jim in the area of, uh, of the scuffle.

In the area of the scuffle as occurring next to the pickup truck?

Around the pickup truck.

In, in the intersection?

But by the time I had gotten closer to it I, I don't recall, I haven't been able to Jim anymore.

(Pause)

Okay. And you then moved back west and you also said that while you were at this telephone pole that you were aware . . .

Right.

. . . that people down east on, on, uh, Everett Street were getting guns out from somewhere.

Right. There were, there were these guys were startin' to walk up with, with, uh, with guns.

And you saw them (Unintelligible)

I saw, I saw 'em with guns, shotguns and, uh, uh, pistols and . . .

Is that when you left this telephone pole to go back towards your truck?

Damn right.

Okay. When you got back to your pickup truck, first of all, the number of the caravan of cars that had been parked down here west, they were parked right next to your pickup truck when they stopped.

Right.

Okay. When you got back down to your pickup truck were those cars still there?

Uh, (Pause) Huh, I don't, I don't remember whether they were still there or not. (Sighs) There wasn't anybody crowded around down there. I remember that. I wouldn't have run in that direction if there had have been but, uh, I don't recall whether I was exactly blocked in or not. I . . .

Well, I'm not talkin' about your truck bein' blocked in but that yellow, the yellow LT . . .

LTD

LTD was, uh, actually east of your pickup truck, wasn't it?

Uh, when, the last time I saw it it was. Yes.

So for you to get back to your pickup truck if that LTD was still there you'd had to pass it wouldn't ya?

Probably would have, yeah.

Unless it moved.

Uh huh.

Alright. Do you remember passin' it when you went back to your pickup truck?

I don't remember.

When you got back to your pickup truck, did you have any sense that there was danger to the west of you?

Uh, no. Some, somewhat, I had a sense of danger period. I was pretty panicked out at that point about all those guns comin' up and I wasn't sure exactly what to do, uh, so I ran in my truck and looked around and saw these guys shootin' and ran, uh, back up. . .

You saw the guy shootin' back up east, right?

Right.

They were shootin' from the east.

Uh huh.

Were you, and then you ran into this parking lot and hid behind one of the cars, right?

Uh huh.

You hid, did you hide behind the second, the same car that [redacted] was behind?

Right.

And there was a cameraman very close to you.

Right.

Okay. Uh, when you ran by the cameraman do you remember bumpin' him?

Uh, no. The cameraman I thought was, uh, on the other side of the car. uh, from the direction I was comin' in, [ ] was, uh, was on, was towards me and the cameraman was, uh, was filming from the other side of the car over here. [ ] was like where [ ] is and the cameraman was I think was over here and I came runnin' up over here where [ ] is.

So you didn't bump into the cameraman?

I don't think so.

Uh, now who did you see shootin' when you were down here by your pickup? Or anytime between that and the time that you got back up and hid behind one of these cars?

I saw, uh, this long haired, uh, black guy with a checkered shirt on with a handgun. Uh, he sort of ran up towards the corner and an, you know, and took aim and shot and scooted back right quick. Uh, saw some of these other guys, he was the main one I watched, but I mean, uh, I watched that transaction but as far as the other guys I saw them, uh, well, I saw a shotgun guy over in the grass with a shotgun and, uh,

What did he look like or what was he wearin'?

He was a short, uh, middle aged, uh, white guy with a sh . . . , uh, (Unintelligible), uh,

What kind of a shirt did he have on?

It was plain, uh, I don't know what color it was. It wasn't one of these C. . . heavier CPO type shirts like this other guy had on.

Was it, what do you mean by CPO shirt?

CPO, uh, uh, heavy, you know these heavy uh, shirts people wear in cool weather, uh,

Uh, like a like a shirt jacket, a light jacket

Yeah. Yeah, a shirt jacket. Yeah. That was, uh, he didn't have one of those on, he had on a regular shirt.

What was it a plaid shirt, plain shirt . . .

I think it was a plain shirt.

And you saw him somewhere in the grass?

Over in that direction, right. And, uh,

Did you see him shoot?

Saw him aiming, uh, and I heard a lot of gunfire but it was, I wasn't really concentrating on exactly which sound matched up with the aiming. It was just . . .

Okay. Who else?

(Pause) I can't recall . . . anything else particular right at this moment about those, you know, details of that.

Did you ever see a man run out from, uh, behind this pickup truck with a shotgun?

I was aware of, like, people were, there was some runnin' back and forth it looked like from the guy with the six gun and there was, uh, you know, and there was gunfire and they were shootin' and aiming and they were doin' that but I don't remember the detail you just raised, as such.

Do you remember a, uh, a guy standin' in the middle of the street, uh, with a blue jean jacket on and red hair with a rifle?

Oh, a guy with red hair and long, long red hair. . .

Uh huh.

b6  
b7C

Yeah.

What'd you see him doin'?

He had a . . . , huh. I can't recall at this time. I remember he was there, uh, at one point I know I seen him holdin' it, not aiming it. Uh, I I can't recall whether I saw him aim it or not.

Do you remember at anytime while you were standing at this pole or running across to your, somebody out in that street pointing to you, pointing towards you?

When I was at the telephone pole?

Either at the telephone pole or while you were runnin' up to your . . .

No.


Do you remember seein' anybody else while you were, uh, at your truck, do you remember seein' anybody run across the street? Comin' through the cars in this parking lot?

At one point I saw [redacted] cross the street, uh, when I was standin' by the telephone pole. I saw him comin' across the street and that's you know, and I saw him headin' over here. And that's when I ran to my truck and hid there and then decided but thought better of it and went back to where [redacted] was.

Do you remember seein' [redacted] run across that street?

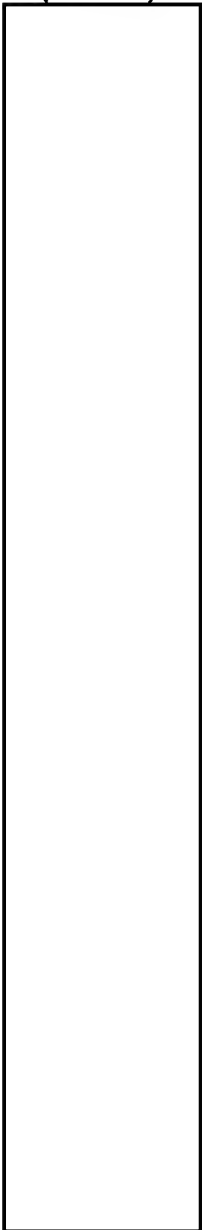
(No audible response)

Before [redacted] came across the street do you ever remember seein' anything that happened with regard to him on the other side of the street becomin' involved in any kind of knife fight?

 No, I didn't, I wasn't aware of that until I saw his cut on his arm, but I didn't see that happen.

(Background noises)

(Pause)

 Okay, anytime that day did you have a weapon with you?

No sir. I didn't have a weapon at all.

Did you, did you own a weapon that day?

Yes. Yes. Uh, I owned, uh, three weapons at that time.


Okay, what were they?


They were, uh, that one you have there the Smith and Wesson

357.

357, uh, also, uh, had a Colt 357 and I had a, uh, 16 gauge shotgun, which both of the latter I had left, uh, back home.

Okay, this first one, the Smith and Wesson 357, did you know who had that that day?

Uh, no. I didn't know that, uh, that  had it. Uh, I sure didn't.

Okay, you later learned that your wife  had that weapon on that day, is that right?

Yes. (Coughs)

Did you later learn that she had fired that weapon that day?

Uh, yes.



Did she tell you how many times she fired that weapon that day?

Yeah. She told me she'd fired it once.

Did you reload, did you take a look at it and reload it?

No.

(Pause)

Okay.

do you have any questions?

No, go on.

Okay, we're gonna discontinue the tape for a minute, uh, and we're gonna look at some photographs on TV film, okay?

Sure.

(Background noises)

Okay, we have, uh, finished reviewing the channel 11 TV film of the incident on November 3, 1979. At this time we have some general questions we'd like to ask you relative to the events of November 3, 1979. Alright, do you have any personal knowledge of any involvement of any Greensboro Police officer in the events prior to and of the events of November 3, 1979?

An event I feel is, was, uh, probably related to the, uh, what I perceive to be the collusion of the Greensboro Police Department in settin' up this, uh, massacre was the, uh, violation of my rights when I lived on, uh, in Greensboro, uh, that previous, uh, June, uh, I have a newspaper slip of the, my response to that at the time, uh, but that, uh, I was in my house and, uh, a friend of mine, you all know him, uh, was over and, uh, we were, uh, actually we were in, havin' been involved in leaflets and so forth we were movin' some, uh, the mimeograph machine, I had

a mimeograph machine in my house and that's where we ran off a lot of leaflets and I, we were movin' some paper and, uh, about that time [ ] uh, came in, he was about to leave and he came back to the door and says, uh, [ ] there's a squad car out in front of your house you might want to go check and see what it is. Well, I went to the door to see what, what was goin' on uh, and a uniformed officer, uh, was comin' up my sidewalk wearin' a bullet proof vest and a shotgun trained on me and, uh, I put my hands up and, uh, he, uh, and about that time, uh, well, he said, you [ ] I think I said what, uh, you know, I didn't know what to think but anyway here comes, uh, this other car screechin' up, guys jumped out about ten or twelve, uh, well, there were only I think two uniformed guys and the rest of 'em were plain clothes, jumped out with their uh, pistols drawn and, uh, you know, another shotgun there, uh, you know, came swarmin' up towards my house and, uh, this guy, uh, he still had his gun on me and [ ] came to the door with, uh, holdin' [ ] who was on a year old at the time and he trained that shotgun right at [ ] and the baby and, uh, said, uh, can we search the house. And, uh, I said, uh, you, do you have a warrant, and he says we don't need a warrant. And at that point another guy, tall, uh, plain clothes guy, uh, uh, went on in the house, you know, uh, made [ ] uh, show his identification and they, they they searched the house lookin' in the mimeograph room and, uh, went all through it and there was a, uh, in the next door neighbor was, uh, concerned when she saw all this, uh, hard, uh, you know, all this artillery out in the yard with the police around asked them what's goin' on, uh, and, uh, uh, they said somethin' about an escaped felon and, uh, she said well, you might, I have an unlocked basement would you like to check there and he said, uh, he said no don't worry about it. Uh, so they uh, then they went on, you know, then they left. And, uh, I felt at the time that this was, uh, harassment and it was a unwarranted violation of all kind of stuff. I thought that the

constitution protected ya against people like, you know, bustin' in like that, uh, threatening children and so forth and, uh, so I went to the uh, city council and made a stink about it and I have clippin's of, uh, of the incident that where I went there and put it to the mayor and everybody else that I didn't feel that, uh, the people of Greensboro was gonna stand for this kind of, uh, I consulted an attorney at the time and didn't have, uh, a whole lot of money to pursue an actual law suit and, uh, the attorney I did talk said that, uh, you know, it would have been a long one to win, anything substantial out of, but I did file internal charges, uh, with the city of Greensboro and I have a letter here that, uh, Chief [redacted] uh, sent me, uh, sayin' that, uh, they looked into it and didn't find any problems with what the police did that day, but, uh, in the course of the investigation a couple of officers came to my house and talked to my neighbors and so forth. Uh, we're just real, real curious about why I would think they would be interested in investigatin' me of all people for anything and I, and it it was, uh, since that time, uh, I've heard that, uh, this guy, I think his name was, uh, [redacted] was, has been promoted in the department and one of his, uh, beats is, uh, keepin' tabs on, uh, subversive elements or whatever which I assume is what he saw me as bein'. Speakin' of subversive elements that phrase, uh, uh, bear in mind all of this activity that I was involved in . . .

(Recording interrupted by beeping noise and nothing recorded)

Okay.

Alright, uh,

You were talking about subversive elements.

Well I . . .

. . . when you when you pointed at me like . . .

[redacted] Right, uh, I, uh, it's another tangent, but uh, in the, uh, summer of 78, uh, my supervisor by the name of [redacted] at Cone Mills pulled me aside, un, in a sort of big brotherly way and told me that the company had been giving the supervisors briefings on the political developments in the state of North Carolina and that the scoop was that there was a subversive element of outsiders comin' in and tryin' to stir up the blacks and get 'em involved in the labor movement and, uh, basically take over North Carolina. And that I should steer clear of these dangerous people. And, uh, I told him, I don't know what, I told him not to worry about it but the . . .

Unknown Male: Uh, tell 'em what you told him.

[redacted] All these, uh, I don't recall but I would like to make a point that all of our activities were completely legal, completely in the finest traditions of the American labor movement and that, uh, you know, all of this, you know, when they started installin' cameras at the gates and all this kind of stuff, you know, all of this stuff Cone was doin' plus their position that, uh, they took in the, uh, NRB trial of uh, [redacted] they were havin', fightin' to get their jobs back Cone's lawyers' main case was, uh, this thing of communists comin' in and that they're dangerous and that they shouldn't have any rights and, uh, you know, that my sentiment, my sense at the time and still is is that Cone, uh, was was getting, uh, all bent out of shape by these communists workin' in their plants and that they, you know, and they were briefing their supervisors about it, uh, and my belief also is that, uh, then [redacted] of the local union was in collaboration with the company, uh, in, you know, tryin' to help the company get some people fired who were, uh, who were activists. We won, uh, labor board rulings to that effect that the union had failed to, uh, represent people who it didn't like. [redacted] won, uh, some money on account of that. She had been a shop steward and fired and all this

kind of stuff. So, uh, and, uh, [redacted]  
[redacted] told me that his brother was in the  
Klan and that, you know, and he made  
statements to a number of people to the  
effect that the Klan oughta come in and, uh,  
take care of these communists who were takin'  
over the union. That wasn't . . .

Unknown Male: Who was [redacted]?

He was the [redacted] White Oak local union.  
The one that, uh, when Bill Sampson was runnin'  
for president, he was the, uh, in part the  
target of the rank and file movement that let's  
get this, uh, scab out of the leadership of  
our union. So, uh, those were things that  
uh in my mind, uh, fueled the belief that, uh,  
that Cone and the local, uh, authorities had  
were likely to have been involved in settin'  
the stage for, uh, violence on November 3.

Who did [redacted] make these, uh, statements  
to? About the Klan oughta come in and take  
care of the communists?

Uh, he made them to a number of workers in the  
beamin' room, uh, bathroom. I was present at  
the time.

Do you remember who else was . . .

Uh, no I don't, uh, remember . . .

(Tape ends)

This is a continuation of the interview of [redacted]  
[redacted]

My question to [redacted] was if you recalled  
any other persons present and your answer was

Was I can remember people who were likely to  
have been present at that moment, who frequently  
hung out and smoked in the bathroom but, uh,  
it would not be fair for me to start listing  
the people who worked there at the time, uh,  
so I guess the answer is no I don't remember  
right now who was there. Uh, so . . .

And, uh, oh, well . . . that's all

Okay, in regards to the events of November 3, prior to and on November 3 and afterwards do you have any knowledge of the involvement of any agents of the United States, Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, or ATF, or any other agency that had any, participated in the events of November 3?

Uh, let's see now, let me break down the question. You asked me prior to November 3 did I know . . .

Yeah, do you have any personal knowledge of the participation of any agent of the United States, any employee of the United States . . .

Just . . .

. . . in the events of November 3 or prior to November 3 or afterwards?

Only the, the, the news reports I've read of the ATF's and and Dawson's participation. I have no personal knowledge of that.

Okay. Okay, do you have anything you want to bring to our attention, uh, which is any way related to the incidents of November 3 or anything at all that you feel should be pursued by the Grand Jury in this investigation?

Uh, no, I can't think of anything else.

Unknown Male: I have a couple of specific questions. First with regard to, you know, you work in, uh, you were working in Kannapolis at Cannon Mills . . .

Uh huh.

Unknown Male: On November 3, right?

Right.

Unknown Male: Do you have any information either personally or through conversations with employees there or any other source regarding photographs of persons who participated in the China Grove demonstration being shown around the Kannapolis community or at Cannon Mills prior to November 3?

[redacted]

Uh, no.

Unknown Male: Do you have any, uh, heard of it, have you ever heard of that happening?

[redacted]

Uh, of any photographs being circulated down there? No I never heard of anything like that.

Unknown Male: I guess that's the only questions I have.

[redacted]

[redacted] Okay, this concludes the interview with [redacted] at Richmond, Virginia on May 3, 1982. It is now 7:15 p. m.

b6  
b7C

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6/25/82

The following is a typed transcript of an interview  
of  at Durham, North Carolina.

Investigation on 4/15/82 at Durham, N.C. File # CE 44-3527

by SA  /mst Date dictated 4/15/82